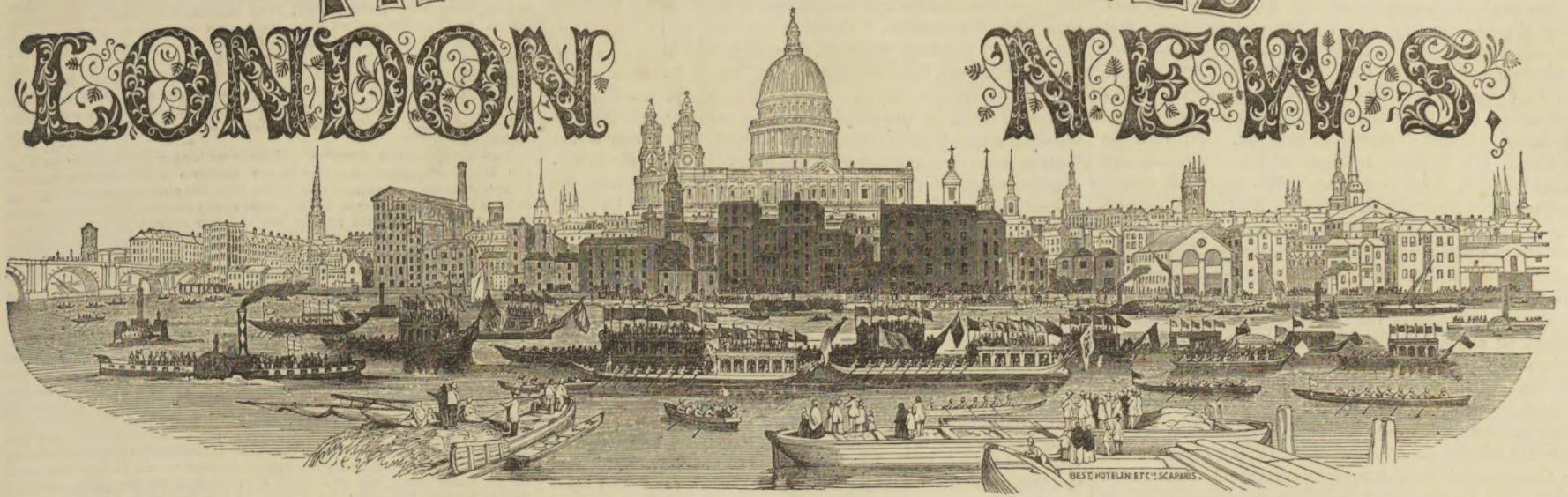


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## “HOW WARS ARE GOT UP IN INDIA” AND IN EUROPE.

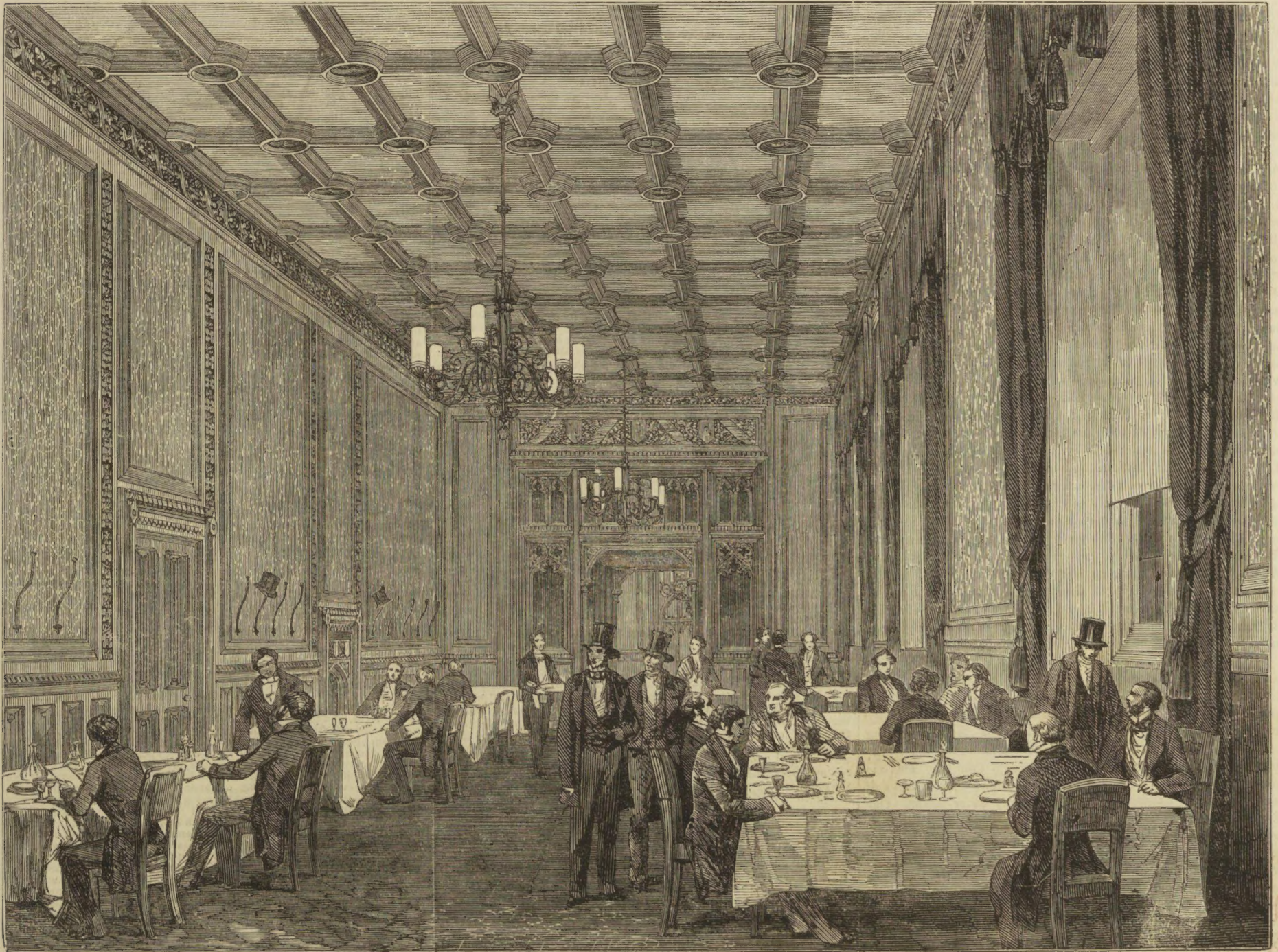
GREAT BRITAIN is at the present moment engaged in one war, of which it is impossible to foresee the termination, and is threatened with another, that may be still more protracted. Mr. Cobden has favoured his countrymen with a short and lucid recital of the mode in which the first was “got up.” The whole world rings with the manner in which the second has been planned. The able and eloquent apostle of Free-trade has not yet favoured the public at any length with his views upon the second. It is worth while, however, for the sake of contrast, and—what is of far more importance—for the sake of the morality of nations—to consider them together.

It is not every one that has the time, the opportunity, or the courage, to read the ponderous volumes which are published by the authority of Parliament, and known as “Blue Books.” Mr. Cobden, having lately distinguished himself as the advocate of Peace, has felt himself bound to investigate the causes of the Burmese War. He has waded through a vast collection of crude and unconnected, if not contradictory, documents; and, after much labour, has mastered the facts, and presented them succinctly to the world. In so doing he has rendered a public service. The facts, as seen through the clear medium of his mind, and as nar-

rated in his pamphlet, “How Wars are Got Up in India,” are full of interest. We will not go the length of asserting that Mr. Cobden is always correct in the statements which he makes, or that he is in every instance free from undue bias in favour of the Burmese and against his own countrymen. But his narrative bears so great an impress of truth, and is supported by such full and explicit references to his authorities, that we cannot but believe in his general exactitude. The pamphlet consists of fifty-eight pages only; but every sentence is of importance to the people of this country.

To furnish an abstract of an abstract, and especially of one so close and clear, is not easy. We must, nevertheless, attempt a recapitulation of the leading facts, leaving those who may desire fuller information to seek it in Mr. Cobden’s Pamphlet, or in the Parliamentary Blue Books. It appears that in June, 1851, the British barque, *Monarch*, of 250 tons, arrived at Rangoon from Moulmein; and in August, in the same year, another British vessel, the *Champion*, of 410 tons, arrived at the same port from the Mauritius. Charges of murder, ill-usage, or debt, were successively brought against the captains of these vessels, by pilots and seamen, claiming to be British subjects. These charges were heard and adjudicated upon by the native authorities at Rangoon. The one captain was forcibly detained for eight days, and mulcted in fines and fees to the amount of £101. The other was detained

fifteen days, and compelled to forfeit £70 for fines, fees, and seamen’s wages. Out of these very trivial incidents arose the Burmese War. The two captains, dissatisfied with the decision of the Burmese police, appealed to the Indian Government for redress, and laid their damages at £1920. Their claim was considered valid to the extent of £920 only. Commodore Lambert, who happened to be the British naval commander on the Hooghly station, was immediately despatched to Rangoon, to hear the Burmese version of the story, and to demand redress on behalf of the captains, if, after investigation, he considered their amended claim to be a just one. Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General of India, anticipating, probably, that the Governor of Rangoon might either be incompetent or indisposed to grant redress, instructed the Commodore, in case of refusal, to forward direct to the King of Burmah a letter written by the Indian Government in anticipation of such an event. When the Commodore arrived at Rangoon, he found there were other cases of complaint. He was beset by British merchants and others, all claiming redress for real or imaginary injuries suffered at the hands of the Burmese authorities. Under these circumstances, he suddenly cut short all discussion with the local Governor, and transmitted to Ava the letter of the Governor-General of India, with an addendum of his own, addressed to the Prime Minister of the King, demanding the dismissal of the Governor of



THE REFRESHMENT-ROOM AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



Rangoon, on the plea "that he interposed endless delays, and disregarded official communications addressed to him." The King of Burmah was so anxious either to do justice in this case, or to avoid misunderstanding with his powerful neighbour, that he appointed a new governor at Rangoon, with full powers to investigate and redress all the grievances, old or new, complained of by the two original captains, and by the supplementary traders of Rangoon. So far all went on smoothly, and there seemed no reason to dread so violent a catastrophe as a war. But, from the days of Hector and Achilles to those of Lord Dalhousie and Commodore Lambert, great events have arisen from little causes, and sanguinary wars from the merest trifles. All Oriental nations, as everybody knows, are mighty sticklers for etiquette. Commodore Lambert was either unaware of this important fact; or, in his intercourse with the new Governor of Rangoon, chose wilfully to disregard it. He sent clerks and inferior functionaries to wait upon the Governor—a man of the very highest rank in Burmah—and directed or allowed them to ride into his "compound," or palace, when they ought to have dismounted at the gate; and to force an entrance at the sultry and unreasonable hour of noon, when everybody in Burmah from the King to the meanest peasant yields to the necessity of a "nap." For these two reasons the English emissaries were not admitted. In the first place the Governor did not wish to receive them because their rank was inferior; and in the second place he was asleep, and no one dared to arouse him, even although the British nation knocked at his door. The envoys of Commodore Lambert "were kept waiting a quarter of an hour in the sun," and departed in high dudgeon. That same evening war was declared against the King of Burmah, by Commodore Lambert. The King's war ship, the only one he had, was forcibly seized and towed away. Submission on his part was thus rendered impossible. The Governor-General of India approved of what had been done. The war was carried on with vigour and success. Rangoon, Martaban, and Prome, were successively taken. In the first encounter the hapless Burmese were slaughtered by hundreds, without any loss of life on the part of the British. Stockades were thrown down as easily and rapidly as if they had been built of card paper. The British found no enemy worthy of the name;—unless it were the climate. In due course the whole province of Pegu was annexed; and it is now a question whether our army will not have to march upon Ava, and "annex" the whole Burmese Empire.

Such is a brief history of this unhappy war, as narrated by Mr. Cobden, on the authority of documents printed by the British Parliament. We should like, with Mr. Cobden, to see the Burmese version of the matter. It is not often that an Englishman has occasion to blush for his country; but if the narrative be a true one, it is time not only to blush and be penitent, but to put an honourable end to a war commenced and carried on under such pretexts. No nation, be it ever so mighty, can afford the disgrace of such a deed. There is a public opinion even in the East, that sooner or later will spread itself throughout all the tribes and populations that yield us allegiance, and cry for vengeance against such an atrocity.

We have thus seen "how wars are got up in India." Let us now consider "how wars are got up in Europe." In the one case, the folly, the obstinacy, and the unlucky perversity of judgment on the part of one or more subordinates, have produced the result that we deplore. In the other case, it is not a subordinate, but a principal, that is to blame. It is no sudden misunderstanding, but a long and deeply-cherished purpose of spoliation and oppression that the world has to condemn. It is no mere error of judgment on the part of a man amenable to human laws for his mistakes or his crimes, but the determination of an irresponsible Autocrat to oppress and to plunder a neighbour whom he imagines to be too weak to resist him. In his war against Turkey the Czar has set public law and morality at defiance; he has outraged every sentiment of right; he has run the risk of convulsing a whole continent, and has imperilled the best interests of civilisation, for the sake of his miserable but insatiable lust of predominance and dominion. When Peter the Great bequeathed to his successors a legacy that did not belong to him, he little dreamed what mischief would ensue. They have each and all become the participants in the crime which that monarch first suggested and recommended. They have pursued their nefarious purpose under every variety of circumstance. They have watched, when they thought watching would be of service; they have waited, when they thought it would be perilous to strike; they have plotted, whenever they could turn conspiracy to account; they have bullied, when they found it safe to be violent, or profitable to be insolent; they have looked for dissension in Turkey, and caused it where they did not find it; and if ever events arose to create coldness or estrangement among the powers of Europe, they seized the opportunity to pounce upon their victim, and to harass if they could not destroy him. In all these arts and vices of a wicked and pertinacious ambition, the Emperor Nicholas stands pre-eminent above all the sovereigns of his race. What they only imagined, he has done. And if Europe be not at this moment involved in all the horror and misery of a war of races and religions, we owe it to the sagacity and courage of Great Britain and France in the first place, and of Austria in the second; and not to the prudence or virtue of the ruler of the Russians.

We think we but express the common feeling of the British people when we hope that both of these wars will speedily be brought to a close. The British nation is just and magnanimous. When the facts of the Burmese War are thoroughly understood, the common sense and right feeling of the people will demand the honorable termination of hostilities, begun in error, and prosecuted by an unhappy fatality. There is no ambition to serve. The British people desire no extension of territory at the expense of Burmah or any other power. Our Empire is large and unwieldy enough already; and Burmah would be an expensive incumbrance to us, if we had the misfortune to possess it. Honorable escape from the dilemma in which Commodore Lambert and Lord Dalhousie have thrust us may not be easy, but it is not impossible. We owe it to ourselves, even more than to the Burmese, to attempt it at the earliest period consistent with our own dignity and the justice of the case. Our true policy in that quarter is peace; the sooner we make it the better for our credit.

But in Europe the case is different. Great Britain, and the other powers of Europe, are so thoroughly in the right in the attitude which they have assumed towards Russia, that to flinch in the slightest degree would be a crime. Peace, in this case, depends upon our firmness. To yield now would be to invite war hereafter. Happily, Europe is united, and its readiness for war will, in all human probability, preserve peace. If, as seems likely, the Emperor of Russia shall be compelled, without a battle, to withdraw his invading armies from Moldavia and Wallachia, a victory of the right over the wrong will have been obtained, second only in importance to that of Waterloo itself. The victory will be none the less splendid because it will have been bloodless; and by its moral majesty will operate more powerfully to curb the bad ambition of Russia than a score of vulgar victories achieved at the point of the bayonet.

#### THE HOUSE OF COMMONS REFRESHMENT ROOMS.

In one particular, the Legislature has had some control over the enormous sums spent, and still to be spent, in the building of "the New Palace at Westminster." The Lords have got a House in which they cannot be heard by the reporters, or even very well by each other; and the Commons have got a House which will not contain them; the fact being that the other day when somewhat more than 500 members voted, there were 100 members who could not get seats at all, and had to wait the division bell in strolling about the lobbies. Then, neither Lords nor Commons approve very highly of the external appearance or the general internal arrangements of Mr. Barry's great building. In regard, however, to these points, there are questions of exoteric taste. The nation has to approve or disapprove; and the architect does not confess to any errors, while he has a large party of friends, in and "out of doors," to applaud his every effort. But in what specially concerns members of the Legislature themselves, their individual comforts and conveniences, while attending their Parliamentary duties, Mr. Barry has had nothing to do beyond taking the instructions of others; and in these respects Peers and Commoners have completely satisfied their most elaborate ideas of elegant luxury. The Houses of Parliament are senates; but they are also clubs; and in the latter point of view what has been done is worth attention. The club of the Lords—their dining-rooms, waiting-rooms, lavatories, &c.—is superbly fitted up.

That of the House of Commons, hardly less plain, is just as finished and admirable. Two of their apartments will bear comparison with the most graceful and grand salons of the Pall Mall palatial clubs. The smoking-room, which is on the ground-floor—that is, on the terrace, its windows fronting the river—is a faultless apartment. The dining-room, which is rather a suite of two rooms, is very handsome, and is magnificently furnished. Some slight sketch of the system on which it is conducted may prove interesting.

All the world has heard of "Bellamy's." It is a name as intimately associated as that of any great parliamentary personage with our modern constitutional history. Bellamy's was, in fact, a corner of the constitution. But Bellamy's has passed away with rotten boroughs and other congenial props of the British institutions; there is no Bellamy now as "Housekeeper," and with the name has gone the system. It was a very peculiar system—a sort of rotten borough, and "in the family." Three generations of Bellamys fed the House of Commons and Lords; and, but for the accident of the Old House being burned, and the New Houses being built, the probability is, that that system would never have been shaken, and that the Bellamys would have gone on as messmen to the Senate to all eternity. The first Bellamy was a contemporary of Pitt, and Fox, and Sheridan; and it was he who gave the place its fame and name, and made "the Kitchen" an institution. A son succeeded him. A grandson kept the Kitchen in the temporary building—or rather shed—until the other day, until members entered their New Houses, which was only two sessions ago. Under the three the system was much the same; but the change in the customs and tastes of society had, latterly, called attention to the complete inappropriateness of that system to the supply of the new wants; and the glory of Bellamy's had departed long ere the name (which is still to be found, as that of a prosperous wine-merchant firm in Parliament-street) had ceased to be connected with the provisioning establishment. Bellamy's has often been written about; but never so well as by Mr. Dickens, one of the most successful of whose earlier sketches was devoted to the delineation of a department of the House of Commons; with which his own connection with the "Gallery" often brought him in contact. His account relates to the period and the persons subsequent to the fire. He tells us nothing of Mr. Pitt, who used to drink two bottles of port to his dinner of rump-steaks, and then go and deliver a Budget; nothing of Mr. Sheridan, who never could count the bottles of sherry (and who would have been obliged if nobody else had ever counted them) he had drunk while cogitating a great speech against the Treasury bench; nothing of any of the great drinking celebrities, who were as jealous of their reputation as bottle-men as of their fame as orators and leaders, and who managed to combine the life of the gourmet and the life of the statesman in a manner, and to a degree, which our present public men are at a complete loss to understand, without coming to the late Lord Palmerston's conclusion, that "stomachs are going out of this country, Sir." But Mr. Dickens's sketch is still of value, as a daily picture of a scene which many members and "strangers" can still well remember. He requests us, after he has taken us up into the Kitchen, where tables are laid out for dining, to "pause in front of the little bar-place with the sash windows; and begs attention to the steady honest-looking old fellow in black, who is its sole occupant." This is Nicholas, the butler, a celebrated character, who saw the unheroic side of a long series of heaven-born ministers, and had strange tales to tell, and was always ready to tell them, of the manners and sayings of the pilots, who found an occasional calm in the storms their kings and country had appointed them to weather. Nicholas was famed for his salad dressings, and his cold punch; and he mixed them to the last (he has not been many years dead) with pertinacious perfection. "But (says Mr. Dickens) Nicholas had a great idea of the degeneracy of the times." He lamented the Reform Bill; and especially the clause which empowered the metropolitan districts to return members to Parliament. "We discovered the secret at last: the metropolitan members always dined at home. The rascals! As for giving additional members to Ireland, it was even worse. 'Why, sir (he would say), an Irish member would go up there and eat more dinner than any three English members. He took no wine, drank table-beer by the half-gallon, and went home to Manchester-buildings or Millbank-street, for his whiskey and water. And what was the consequence? Why, the concern lost—actually lost by their patronage.' Mr. Dickens continues, 'Now, when you have taken your seat in the Kitchen, and duly noticed the large fire and roasting-jack at one end of the room, the little table for draining jugs and washing glasses at the other, the clock over the window opposite St. Margaret's Church, the deal tables and wax candles, the damask tablecloth, and bare floors, the plate and china on the tables, and gridiron on the fire; and a few other such anomalies peculiar to the place, we will,' &c. He sketches Jane, the waitress, "the Hebe of Bellamy's," who was famed for her wit, which, we may add, was not wit born with her, but was an affair of memory, and got by a sort of knack, from her recollection of the *mots* and repartees of the many distinguished, and with her always good-humoured, diners. This Jane is, we hear, still to be seen about the new Houses; no longer a Hebe, but fat and forty; no longer a waitress, but still sure of kindly nods from the old members when she happens to meet them. Much has to be annexed to Mr. Dickens's account; he only details the appearances, and not the system, which we wish to contrast with that at present prevailing. The enormous prices insisted on at Bellamy's are most noticeable; and these applied to members and strangers alike. It should be understood that "the Kitchen" was not the only room; there was an esoteric apartment special to members, but where members of the Lower House did not often go, preferring the exoteric freer and easier Kitchen, where they saw or took the strangers whom they wanted to talk to, and where they enjoyed the sight of the cooking of the meat, afterwards placed before them. There was every sort of food: chops and steaks—steaks and chops, of course, as Nicholas used to say, by way of a change; and no dinner, even of this fare, was to be had under six shillings. The wine was in proportion: the commonest port, for instance, was from eight to eleven shillings a bottle; and the scale for clarets was

of fabulous costliness. When the House of Commons was entered only by the wealthy or by the reckless adventurer, these prices were not complained of; but when quiet and thrifty men of the bar and of 'Change got in, after the Reform Bill, they naturally avoided a restaurant where the monotony of the *carte* was even less striking than the prices affixed. Even as it was, however, it was to the last well attended; and there are stories of the vast credit given by the Bellamys to members, such that "when so-and-so died, Bellamy's bill against him, for dinners and for wines furnished to his house, was for £1200." At the time when suppers were not yet unfashionable—when late dinners were—Bellamy's was most crowded about midnight.

Now everything is changed. There is no longer a "housekeeper" to the House of Commons. The House appoints a Refreshment-rooms' Committee, whose business it is to see that the club department of the Senate is as well managed as any other club; and this Committee, which the last Bellamy would appear not to have agreed with, appoints a sort of steward, who, however, takes the dining-room upon speculation and conducts it on the same principles as the dining-room of an hotel. Since the disappearance of Bellamy, a Mr. H. Wodehouse was the purveyor, but he did not give satisfaction; and the individual who now has the contract is Mr. Steers, lately the steward to the Junior United Service Club. Mr. Steers does not satisfy every one; but it is admitted that he carries on the department far more efficiently than his predecessor. The House votes him, in the Estimates, £300 a year, out of which he undertakes to pay waiters, and to clean and keep in order the dining-room, the smoking-room, and the library. And then he has these advantages—he has no rent to pay—he has plate (the House of Commons is, however, mean enough, for the present, to put up with Mr. Burton's miraculous nickel silver) dinner services, &c., and gas and coals, free. He furnishes his *carte* periodically to the committee, and then the committee fix the prices, beyond which he is not allowed to go, there being the one fixed club charge for the joint, with the usual sixpence for the "table," as to the *entremets*, &c., there is, of course, some latitude; but club charges are the rule. The wines he selects himself; but though there is no Tasting Committee, it is clear that the House generally must like such vintages as the committee prefers. On the committee are such profound "political gastronomers" (it is Mr. Disraeli's phrase) as Lord Mulgrave, and Mr. Fitz-Stephen French—gentlemen selected by the House for their notorious proficiency in the art of elegant dining; and so far their *argumentum ad gulam* seems to have produced the best effect on the general temper of the House. One happy invention of Mr. French's—he is the gourmet *par excellence* of the Committee, as he is, also, one of the most accomplished members of the House—may have the widest political consequences upon the connection between Celts and Saxons. The fish dinners for the Roman Catholic members on the "jour *maigre*" is of a character to render impossible any "Irish row" in the House on Fridays. The "House dinners" (to use the club term) generally are excellent. Two or three hundred members dine in the room every day; but the purveying is still a speculation of doubtful results, its nature justifying a somewhat extra rate of charges. For instance, on a Tuesday recently, there was a vast preparation of superb *entrées*; and, on that day, the House was counted out before five o'clock. Of course, members went to Greenwich and Blackwall.

There is no "Nicholas" now, to tell anecdotes; but, if there were, there is the risk that story he would have none to tell. The great ins and the great outs are, in this age, alike moderate eaters, and still more moderate drinkers—Seltzer-water is more generally used than sherry; and, in the dining-room, none of the eminent men who have hard work to do are ever seen over their wine. Even Lord Palmerston—who is a gourmet, and who is blessed with one of the largest appetites of his time—a sure guarantee to the nation that his vigour is likely long to endure—is not ten minutes over his dinner. Mr. Disraeli—whose essays on dining, scattered through his novels, indicate great perception and varied knowledge—is not ten minutes longer than Lord Palmerston. Lord John is always seen at nine o'clock in the dining-room; but, alas for a degenerate age, it is only his tea that he is having. These are the prominent instances of our new manners. We live in a period when the House of Commons works hard and works at night; and hard work at night is incompatible with an encouragement of the art of dining. Whatever party differences there are in the House, cautious moderation is the spirit evidenced by all in the dining-room.

Strangers about the House should know that there are rooms, in connection with the members' rooms, where they can enjoy, at the same prices, the members' *carte*. These rooms might be, and no doubt will be, much more comfortable; but the attendance is good, and club *convenances* are well looked after.

#### LONDON CENTRAL TERMINUS RAILWAY STATION

The following is an outline of a plan, by Mr. Henderson, of the firm of Fox, Henderson, and Co., for relieving the main thoroughfares of London from their superabundant traffic; and for improving the navigation, bridges, and property on the banks of the river Thames:—

The plan is to raise the proposed structure over a suitable portion of the river Thames, on the principle of a viaduct, of sufficient width, erected over the centre of that river, following as nearly as practicable its course, occupying, more or less, as an ultimate and complete scheme, the distance from Westminster-bridge to London-bridge, and offering facilities for making direct communication with the ships in the Pool, &c. The level of the structure proposed would be such as not to interfere with the traffic on the river and on the bridges. Its supports would not injure the views from Whitehall-gardens, Northumberland-house, the Adelphi, the Temple-gardens, &c.; and, far from being open to any reasonable objection, the structure erected would form an ornament to the metropolis; and the London Central Terminus station would thus, without any unnecessary interference with existing property, satisfy in the highest degree the great and urgent requirements of the public service. It is believed that such a station can be not only safely, but economically constructed, upon the principle so successfully adopted under the direction of Sir William Cubitt, at Rochester, and proposed by Fox, Henderson, and Co., for the new bridge at Westminster. The station so constructed would divide the river into three parts, viz., one central portion, covered by the railway station, and supported on columns (so arranged as to form distinct channels for traffic, without offering any serious impediment to the passage of barges and small craft, and two ample water-ways), one on each side of the river, for the passage of the steamers, without interfering with the accommodation for passengers at the various piers and jetties. Thus, the space under the railway being lofty and open, and the structure itself being confined to limited dimensions, any difficulty on the score of ventilation would be effectually obviated; and, by means of floating fenders connected to the columns, the river traffic might be definitely arranged into distinct trains or streams, so as to prevent risk of collision, and even to provide for increased intercourse. It is considered that the site proposed is the natural one—the only one calculated to meet the exigencies of the case, and essentially right, whether the location of the population, the facilities for communication with the river, or the means of connecting all the railways together, be taken into account. The project has been much discussed privately since 1845; it has been held in abeyance simply because it has not hitherto been considered that the right time had arrived for carrying it out; and the only reason for bringing it forward at this period is the fact that other schemes are projected which are believed to be utterly inefficient in themselves, and which, if adopted, will prove a waste of money, and tend to impede the adoption of the only plan which seems calculated to meet the necessities of the case.

The plan proposed contains, among others, the following advantages:—1. It would, in the most complete manner, connect all the railways north and south of the river, being convenient for the Great Western, London and North-Western, Great Northern, or Eastern Counties, on the northern side; or the South-Eastern and South-Western on the southern side, with their respective tributaries. 2. It would really be central and convenient so far as the traffic and population are concerned, affording great facilities for the approach and departure of passengers at the bridges on both sides of the river, and to and from the steam-boats, which could all run alongside, or underneath the station. 3. It would also offer great facilities for delivering goods from all parts, into barges and craft in the river, and receiving goods from them, either alongside or underneath the station. 4. It would prevent the necessity of passengers from north to south, or vice versa, changing stations or carriages in the metropolis. It would, in like manner, prevent the necessity of carting goods, luggage, and parcels through the metropolis, and thus relieve it of the burden which is already so great, and increases so fast as to render many streets almost impassable. 5. It would afford opportunities of combining with such a project, either directly or indirectly, plans for the permanent improvement of the river, its navigation, its water-side property, its bridges, and a good system of water supply and drainage, &c., so as to render the whole creditable to the metropolis of this great nation. 6. The project could be commenced upon a comparatively small scale, in fact as little more than a communication between the northern and southern railways; capable, by proper arrangement, of being extended to almost any conceivable amount of accommodation; and it is impossible to procure any other site possessing this last-named advantage. 7. Considering the question in all its details and looking to the value of land, it would be an economical station, and if the improvement of water-side property that might be combined with it, is taken into account, it must, as a whole, rather confer a boon than be a charge upon the metropolis.



## LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. III.

## A CHAPTER ON CATS.

THE "common domestic cat"—as elementary books of natural history call our fireside-sitting, garden-haunting, and roof-frequenting puss—is a creature to whose qualities and true characteristics I hardly think the word does justice. Forlorn old women, who wanted something to love—and, for that matter, prim old maids, who experienced in a less elevated degree the same sensation—were bad patrons for raising puss in the scale of popular favour; and, although great philosophers and great writers—for example, Montaigne, Johnson, Scott, Joanna Baillie—had favourites of the feline race, and left their names to posterity, yet the great majority of men pin their quadrupedal affections upon dogs instead. The quiet characteristics and unobtrusive traits of character of poor puss are passed over unnoticed and unknown. The dog, with moral and instinctive lineaments more pronounced—and, I do not deny it, more elevated in their nature than are pussy's humbler gifts—has become the universal favourite. You hear the dog's clatter on the stair—never the velvet foot-fall of the cat: the one rouses you, the other produces no effect. Yet the paw of the cat is a thousand times more artistic and curious than that of the dog.

One of the results of the careless estimate of cats—as a species of all but worthless animals, destitute of the fine affection and noble instincts of the dog, and fit only for watching at a mouse-hole—has been to foster, if not to create, among boys a degree of habitual cruelty to the creature, which is anything but creditable to those who allow its practical development. "A good dog for cats," meaning a ferocious bull-terrier which can worry poor puss in a couple of shakes, is a common expression among precocious juveniles; and, unhappily, it sticks to them as they grow. Shooting cats, when they can be conveniently put an end to, is not unfrequently a boy's passion; and in most acts of wanton cruelty—which from time to time we find recorded in print—an unfortunate tabby is pretty sure to have been the victim. Unhappily, puss has got credit for nine lives, and, Heaven knows, that she has frequently full occasion for them all. She also possesses the wretched reputation of always falling upon her feet, from whatever height she may be thrown, and many a cruel experiment has been made to ascertain the fact. We repeat, that people having a taste for dogs are seldom catholic enough in their animal fondness to extend it to cats. You never hear of drowning dogs, or pelting dogs, or having dogs worried, for mere amusement. The creature's more conspicuous gifts are appreciated by those rougher judging estimates, which are unable to make out the subtler delicacies of the cat organisation. The man with a prime terrier for rats—or a mastiff which can throttle a bulldog—or a hound which can pull down a red-deer—or even a poodle which can sit upon its hind legs and yelp at the word of command—not one of these amateurs but will discover and admire the points and motions of the creatures while performing these achievements; but it is twenty to one that they never studied, or never thought it worth while studying, one of the most perfectly graceful things beneath the sun—a cat curving herself for a spring; or one of the most dexterous performances which animal nature is capable of—a cat picking her way among a series either of moveable or hurtful petty articles, without touching a single one. I myself have a cat which deftly walks from end to end of a chimney-piece, so crowded with the tiny ornaments, that there is hardly a square inch of space unoccupied, and which promenades upon a glass-protected wall as on a Turkey carpet. Place a dog on the chimney-piece, and vast will be the clatter of destruction—on the wall, and sore and bleeding will be the paws with which he will howlingly precipitate himself to mother earth.

That cats love localities better than persons, is an axiom in which I feel assured that there is not half so much truth as is generally believed. In many of the cases which are commonly quoted in proof, the cat has returned to her former locality because she can make an easier living there than on unknown grounds. I remember a gentleman abusing a cat for attachment to stone and lime rather than to flesh and blood, because, on his changing his residence, puss had practically refused to change hers with him, and had gone back to haunt the purlieus of a neighbouring granary. I inquired whether the family had regularly fed her. "Oh dear no!" was the reply; "she could feed herself very well, and did so on the rats and mice and small birds about the barn." "Then, of course," I rejoined, "the cat has more reason to love the barn than you. It gave her food: she found none here. She might not be aware that you intended to supply her, and animal instinct prompted her—as, if a dog lived on what he could pick up, it would also prompt him, to return to the spot where his wants had been supplied." The plain truth of the matter is that well-treated and regularly-fed cats have no particular attachment to a place. On the contrary, they attach themselves to the persons kind to them, and who often notice them; so that the cry of want of personal attachment on the part of the feline tribe, is very frequently mere slander of ladies and gentlemen who have neglected, perhaps ill-treated, the creatures, and yet expect them to be as fond as lovers. Cats are, in truth, fond of those who are fond of them; and they are as sharp as needles in finding out their real friends, and in shrinking from people "who don't like cats." One of my pussies knows my knock at the door, especially at night, and her mew follows closely on the sound, while generally a couple of other creatures of the same species are waiting with her in the lobby, and the whole three accompany me up-stairs in procession. If they happen to be out of doors at night, a single call will generally bring them scampering home; and if their names prove inefficient, one enunciation of "Cat's-meat!" acts like a spell. It is curious to contrast the mild, and, if I may use the expression, the affable faces of cats which are noticed—perhaps playfully talked to—with the fierce and moody countenances of those neglected creatures which, in London and elsewhere, grow half or wholly wild, among gardens, yards, and outhouses, picking up their living as they can. The two classes seem to belong to different species. The well-kept and well-treated house-cat seems rather civilised than tamed; the neglected and too often persecuted brute outside the window has relapsed into a skulking savage. You never see the two consort together, and the natural playfulness of the species seems in the outcast to have almost entirely vanished. Now, is all this, poor ragged, beaten, pelted, and unsheltered pussy's fault? Far from it. It is too often the fault of her accusers. They do not give her sufficient food. She steals it, gets beaten and driven out; and perhaps in a month or two acquires that horribly stealthy crawl, and that misgiving hungry eye—both of which are quite unnatural, and speak a creature under the influence of constant want and the fear of tyrant man.

A not uncommon phrase in households is that of a "parlour cat" and a "kitchen cat;" and I believe it to be an undoubted fact, that there are differences in the character of the creatures which somehow prompt the one to seek the cheerful light and talk of a sitting-room, and the other rather to brood and nestle in the gloomier and the warmer regions below. The one is always seen conspicuous on the rug, or stretched upon the footstool. The other makes casual appearances upon the stairs, and flies like a spectre at the approach of anybody but the cook. The one creature seems to have a sort of aristocracy in its nature, and it is all but uniformly the handsomest cat of the twain; the other is, most probably, a vulgar, squat plebeian, with its original shyness still strongly present in it. Of my three cats, two I reckon as parlour cats, *pur sang*; and the third has been, by kind usage and encouragement, coaxed into a degree of the same familiarity. Still, however, the natural timidity seems unconquerable. If you make a rapid motion towards the creature,

she bounds away like a wild thing. Her two comrades, on the contrary, are frightened at nothing. The room, the occupants, the whole *locale*, seem their own special sphere and natural dwelling-place; and the only period of the day when the three appear to be merged into a common character, is as the hour for the visit of the "cat's-meat-man" approaches; when they are sure to be in waiting at the door, and to set up their sweet voices as soon as they hear that of the vendor of the food. It is to be remarked that they take not the slightest notice of the daily cry of a rival practitioner who perambulates the street at nearly the same time; and that on Sundays, when no prandial visit takes place, they never appear to expect the week-day ceremony, but are perfectly aware of a double quantity of good things being stowed away in a certain cupboard, round which they cluster with arching backs and waving tails.

People not unfrequently cry out that kittens are pretty playful things, but that they lose the *gentillesse* and piquant prettiness of their youth when they degenerate into stupid cats. The complaint is unreasonable enough. The infantine Johnny Tomkins, who kicked, and crowed, and lisped funny imperfect words, and made big eyes at his mother, can hardly be expected to repeat the performances some half-century after, when he is Tomkins and Co., perhaps the mayor of the town, and a churchwarden of the parish to boot. Why, then, should sedate ten-years-old puss, who is getting rather stiff in the joints, and likes better and better the summer's bask, and the winter's warm, be expected to tumble over a ball of cotton, or to lie on his back kicking at nothing at all, like his own son and heir, whom he gravely observes at these amusements, and sometimes tips over with his paw? Mr. Tomkins is not blamed for his matured dignity, why, then, should Mr. Puss? But the fact is, that the playfulness of kittenhood can be partially, particularly with healthy and good-tempered cats, kept up, by a little encouragement, even when they have grown into "potent, grave, and reverend seigneurs;" and that grim old grimalkins, who have drunk their morning's milk for a dozen of years, can be induced to skip and roll and tumble in the most absurdly awkward mimicry of the small fry, which are still indebted for the lacteal fluid to their mothers.

Our feline friends, among their other short-comings, are often, too, with justice, taxed with being savage murderers of pet birds. Many a cat has hung from a branch, or gone over a bridge with a rope and a stone, after being caught crouching beside an empty and open cage with fatal yellow feathers strewn around; while in the cases of milder masters or mistresses, many a bitter tear has probably been shed over the mangled remnants of "poor Goldy, who would eat out of your hand;" or "poor Bully, who piped so beautifully the 'Banks and Braes.'" To cure cats of the propensity to attack pet birds has always, therefore, been a matter of effort; and a variety of expedients—such as heating the bars of the cages, and burning the cat's nose against them—are more or less in request. Some of these are cruel, and none of them I believe to be really needful. The first thing to be done, to keep cats from birds, is to take care that the cats are well fed, and that no hungry fit may occasionally prompt a breach of moral duties; the second is to familiarise the two classes of creatures, and accustom them to each other's presence. Most birds are killed by cats with empty stomachs, and by those who have not undergone the sort of socialising process which I have described. I have seen people drive away cats for merely looking at caged birds. This is quite a mistaken plan: unless the passion of hunger be roused in the creature, ten to one it is only satisfying its curiosity by the mere contemplation of the "little warbler." At all events, in my own experience, without any particular training, except kind treatment, and often putting the cages with their occupants on the tables for the cats' inspection, the creatures appear to have got so companionable that I have no scruple in leaving some half-dozen birds within the reach of three cats. The animals frequently sit and look at each other; and a green parrot, with a fine talent for biting, has regularly a snap at any whisking tail or incautious paw which may be found within the limits of her very powerful organ. Sometimes this creature will sit quietly on a cat's back, and people have wondered how it was "tamed and taught" to do so. There was no "taming" or "teaching" in the case, further, indeed, than good feeding, and, as it were, making the creatures acquainted and familiar—the birds with the beasts.

The cat, to win his affection, must be more sedulously attended to than the dog. There is no doubt, indeed, but that the gratitude of the one creature is far more easily evoked than that of the other. A dog will often follow a stranger along a street, if tempted by a bit of food—dog-stealers are tolerably well acquainted with the fact; but a cat will do nothing of the sort. Dogs yield to the first kind word or friendly pat—the majority do so, at all events; cats do not fling their friendship away so lightly. True, when won, it is neither so trusty, so pure, nor so elevated as the dog's; but the peculiar character of the creature—its coy yet by no means fickle nature—its suspicious, yet, under certain circumstances, confiding disposition—its peculiar refinement of taste—(a dog gobbles its meat, like a coalheaver over a steak; a well-brought-up cat takes dinner coolly, like a *gourmet*, over a *paté de foie gras*)—and, finally, the general grace and gliding ease of posture of the creature—its peculiar cleanliness, and its marked adaptability for household purposes—all these qualities ought, surely, to elevate puss a step higher in social estimation than it has yet ascended.

Let me hope, then, that the reader, if he be one of that numerous class who "hate cats;" if he perchance have imbibed the groundless antipathy which Shylock speaks of to the "harmless necessary cat" will pause and look a little more closely into the delicate and dainty nature of the creature which purrs before him—will try to puzzle out some meaning in a face pronounced only by those who have never studied its phases and its shades to be unmeaning; and will ascertain whether a caressing hand and a soothing voice do not forthwith evoke corresponding demonstrations, just as sincere as those of the most petted spaniel, or the most favoured terrier. Let no one deem it unmanly to be fond of a cat. Two of the manliest men the world ever saw—we have mentioned their names—loved their feline dependants; and of one of these this curious anecdote is recorded:—Dr. Johnson, sitting in Bolt-court, by the fireside, with Boszzy on the one hand, Mrs. Williams on the other, and "Hodge" the cat, for which he used to bring home oysters in his pocket, probably encoined upon the rug. The great old Pundit, after hearing his pet somewhat depreciated, did agree, that he had seen cleverer cats than "Hodge;" but, suddenly correcting himself, as if (notes Boszzy), he experienced a kind of instinctive idea that the dumb creature at his feet had a notion of the depreciatory nature of his sentence, he made haste to relieve poor puss's feelings by adding, "But Hodge is a fine cat, sir—a very fine cat, indeed."

A. B. R.

## THE SONG OF THE EASTERN TRAVELLER.

I've roamed through Eastern isles in all their beauty,  
Mid spice groves waving o'er waters blue;  
But my heart was in the woodland of Australia,  
With the gum-tree and the bounding kangaroo:  
Where the emu stalks in grandeur o'er the ranges;  
Where the wombat eyes me slyly from the glen;  
Where the lori spreads her plumage in the sunbeam;  
And the dingo slinks demurely to his den.

'Tis then I love to wander in the spring time,  
When the breeze from off the mountain summit blows,  
And the music of the locust in the tree-top  
Lulls nature in the sweets of calm repose.  
For then the dreams of future days steal o'er me,  
The hum of fancied voices fill my brain,  
And coming millions pass in crowds before me,  
To reap the golden harvest of the plain.

Fair Asia, deep in pillowed ease reclining,  
Looks southward, and arouses for her rest;  
Columbia sends a greeting with the sunrise;  
And Afric shouts her praises in the West.  
I wake to find the Southern Cross above me,  
Shedding hope upon the lowly and the true:  
Ah! my heart is in the Austral Land of Plenty,  
With the gum-tree and the bounding kangaroo.

## INAUGURATION OF THE NEW YORK EXHIBITION.

In our Journal of last week, this impressive scene was described by our New York Correspondent. We have engraved upon the next page a view of the platform in the north nave, from a daguerreotype taken during the prayer offered up by Bishop Wainwright. On the platform are three chairs: the one on the left for the President; the centre one for the Bishop; and the one on the extreme left for the President of the Crystal Palace Association, the Hon. Theodore Sedgwick. The President of the United States were nothing to distinguish him from any other citizen; he is in deep mourning, and stands bending forward on the left of the Bishop. No order was observed, except as regarded the President, the Bishop, and Mr. Sedgwick. The galleries are crowded, as also the staircase on the right, with ladies and gentlemen. No particular costume is observed by gentlemen on public occasions in New York: some wearing white hats, some straw hats, white coats and white trousers; and very few wearing gloves.

From the letter of a Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, dated New York, July 26:—we learn that the articles at that date were being rapidly unpacked and exhibited to view, and that the Crystal Palace really began to make a show. But the number of visitors was limited. Visitors to the Crystal Palace during the week ending on the previous Saturday only amounted to 26,114, and the gross receipts to 8147 dols. It is to be hoped the receipts will increase, otherwise the speculation will pay but poorly.

The average number of visitors thus far has been about 2600 per day, and the amount for the Washington monument about 560 dols.

Some of the critics, while lauding the statues of "The Saviour and the Twelve Apostles," declare that the forehead of the Saviour is too low, and that it wants nobility, breadth, and height. This is bold language, when applied to the works of Thorwaldsen. The statue of Paul, in the act of addressing the people, is truly impressive, oratorical, and noble. A noble statue of colossal size has just been erected near "The Amazon." It is the very image of Daniel Webster—his right hand raised as if in the act of speaking, and his left resting on the United States constitution. It is raised on a lofty pedestal, and is striking, impressive, and grand. This fine specimen is an honour to the artist and sculptor; but such is the peculiarity of the New York World's Fair, that his name cannot yet be found. Among the statuary is also a beautiful head of Minerva, from Italy, the sculptor of which is equally undiscovered. An allegorical group, life-size, representing Washington, Liberty, and the Genius of the Republic, ought never to have been admitted into the Exhibition. It is beneath contempt. People are asking where could have been the sense, the taste, and the judgment of the committee, when they decided upon the admission of such an abortion, of so deplorable a failure, as a specimen of American art? An exceedingly beautiful vase from Italy, in Parian marble, excites much admiration. It is raised to the height of about ten feet, is of purely classic form, and is supported by four upright lions, somewhat after the manner of caryatides. Round the base of the pedestal are exceedingly well-sculptured reptiles and smaller animals; while the exterior of the vase is enriched with classic and allegorical groups in *alto relievo*. One of the most attractive shows in the collection—which may be mentioned here from its connection with the fine arts—is the now increased and extraordinary stock of the useful and ornamental, from the establishment of Minton and Co., of Stoke-upon-Trent, manufacturers of porcelain, earthenware, stoneware, and Parian figures. The china scent jars and vases may fairly compete with the celebrated ware of Dresden; while a magnificent desert service, supported by Parian figures, and adorned similarly in *alto relievo*—precisely the same in design, character, and the number of pieces, as the service presented by the Queen to the Emperor of Austria—is not, perhaps, to be surpassed in beauty of conception and nicety of workmanship. The porcelain dishes and baskets, with their fretwork, are exceedingly tasteful. Then Minton and Co. show an exquisite cornice, or deep frieze work, for rooms, in *alto relievo*, with figures, statuettes, flowers, &c., in Lucca della Robbia; also tiles, both polished and encaustic, for the walls of rooms. These specimens are worthy of the most luxurious days of Herculaneum and Pompeii, the ruins of which volcanic cities doubtless furnished the models. John Ridgway and Co., of Staffordshire, have an elegant variety of porcelain and china; as has also John Rose, of Shropshire; nor must we omit to mention the splendid stands of Charles C. Leigh, of 232, Breecker-street, New York, who is agent for W. T. Copeland, of London; Rose and Co., Shropshire; and L. A. Pillivray and Co., and M. Miton, of Paris. The Parian marble statuary, china, earthenware, French flower vases and porcelain generally at these stands, are chaste, elegant, and classic.

English visitors pause before one stand with just national pride—that, namely, where Rodgers and Sons' cutlery, from Sheffield, is shown in all its exquisite superiority. Here are knives with hundreds of blades, all of the highest temper, finish, and polish. On one set of broad blades are views of the Crystal Palace, London; of Windsor Castle, York Minster, Chatsworth-house, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert—all works of excellence in the pictorial art. In another case, Rodgers and Sons show a miniature knife with a hundred blades, all in the size of a filbert. This is a matter more curious than useful; still it proves to what minute perfection manufactures may be brought. Then there is a variety of caps, bullets, and saloon pistols, suggesting every variety of death, from Times, of London; also, an emerald, said to be the largest in the world, from the mines of Muzo. There is a beautiful stand of basket-making, knitting, netting, and other manufactures by the blind, together with books of raised letters for their reading, from the London Society. These are followed by metallic pens, from Joseph Gillot, of London, manufacturer to the Queen.

The visitors were, up to the date of the letter in question, inquiring in vain for the promised extensive exhibitions of textile fabrics. These had much increased, it is true, since the opening; still there was a sad lack of shawls, silks, cloths, and ribbons. In textiles, Ireland is admirably represented by Pim's poplins of Dublin; and Richardson, Son, and Ouden's unequalled linens of Belfast. A variety of "premium thread," from Clark and Co., of Mile-end, Glasgow, is a very strong and superior article, and justly called "cable thread." Bourry, of St. Gall, exhibits beautiful lace; and C. Mayer, of Zurich, superb printed cottons; while Plimpton, Stephenson, and Co., of Boston, make a good show of imported silk goods. Genin, of New York, displays a superb collection of fashionable dresses. Von Bruck and Sons, of Crefeld, Germany, have thus far the best show of velvets, silks, and ribbons; but the truth is, a much better display of these articles may be seen any day at any large establishment in London; at Stewart's, in Broadway; or at Levy's, in Chesnut-street, Philadelphia, than in all the Crystal Palace of New York. Switzerland makes an admirable display in richly and elaborately worked lace curtains, coverlids, and lace generally, of the bobbinet class; also, in watches and in printed cottons. The colours of the latter are, perhaps, rather gaudy for the Anglo-Saxon taste.

The cannon and musketry of American make are remarkably fine, whether from Ames, of Springfield, Massachusetts, from Colt, or from the United States Government. There was also a stand of arms from Liège; but all the specimens appeared clumsy when compared to those of American manufacture. There is a good show of guns and pistols from Richard's of New Bond-street; but, singular as it may appear to English gunsmiths, America is declared to excel in the manufacture of arms.

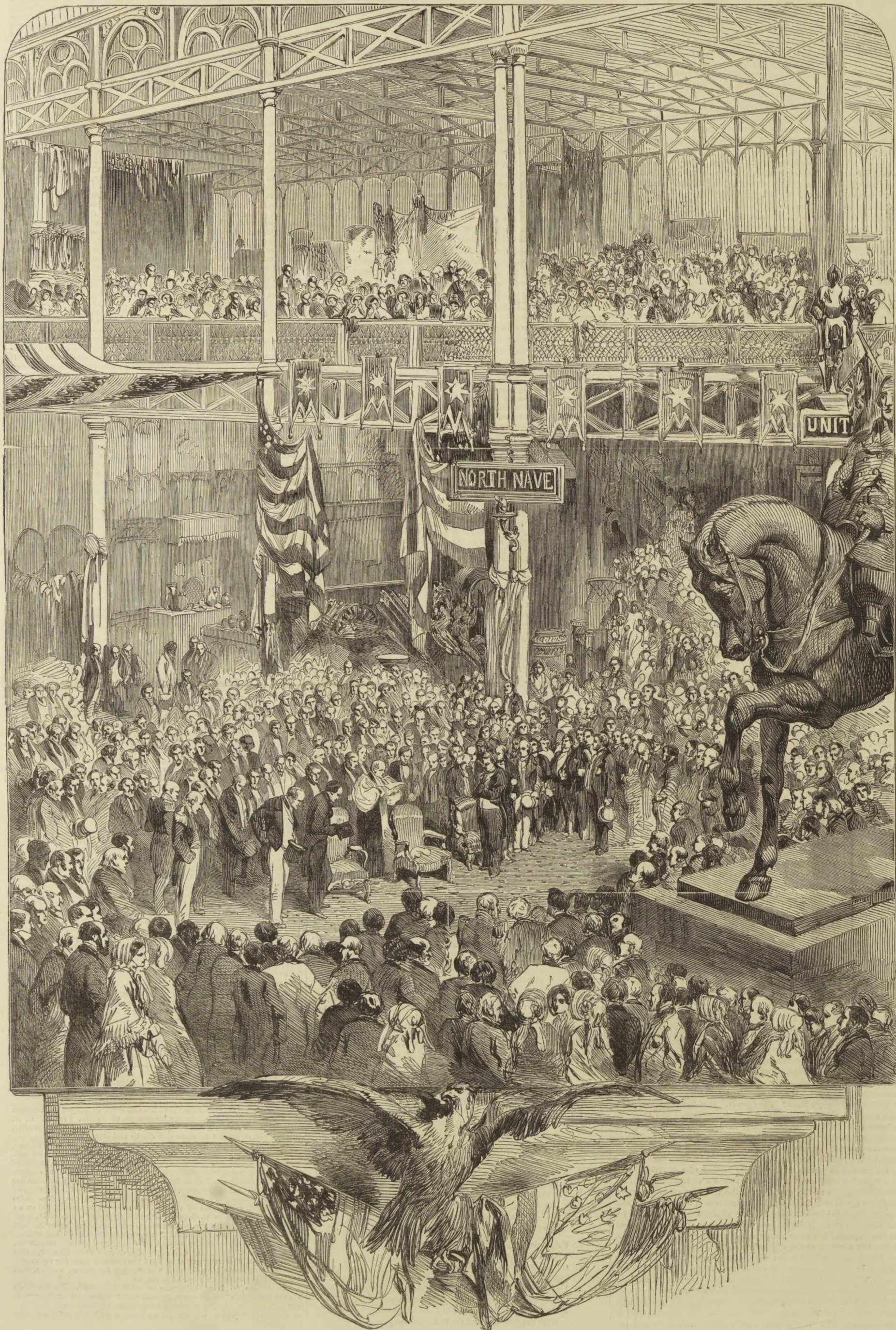
The Swiss toys attract much attention, but the toys contributed by Rock and Graner, of Biberach, Wurtemberg, are said to be the best in the collection.

There are great improvements and much taste displayed in porcelain door-handles, contributed by Baptistrosses, of Briare, France. C. A. Friedrich, of Breslau, Prussia, exhibits some very beautiful, substantial, and correct eight and fourteen day clocks and alarums.

Thus far have been displayed only two carriages—one from France, rich, but gaudy; and one from England—handsome, solid, and substantial. The carriages will be exhibited in the new attachment of gallery and machine-room. There are some magnificent church-bells from Glampet and Regester, of Baltimore. A show of salamander marble—iron made to represent marble—by Silas C. Herring, of Broadway, deserves notice and commendation; as does also a finely-toned organ, full of volume and sweetness, constructed on an improved principle by E. Germunder and Brothers, of Springfield, Massachusetts. Although the instrument is not large, yet when its rich notes "up the lofty diapason roll," they nearly fill the Crystal Palace. The clarinet stop produces sounds of exceedingly tender sweetness; while its variety of sound and expression charms every listener. One peculiarity in this instrument is, that the organist faces the congregation. The price is 2000 dollars. Considering its power, variety, and volume, this sum is by no means excessive.

The health of Lord Ellesmere is much improved. His Lordship visited the Exhibition, in company with Lady Ellesmere, on Saturday, the 23rd ult. He intends returning to England, via Boston and Halifax; at which latter port he will embark on board a British frigate, probably the *Leander*.





INAUGURATION OF THE NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE.—PLATFORM IN THE NORTH NAVE.—FROM A DAGUERRETYPE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



# THE NEW GRAMMAR-SCHOOL AT COLCHESTER.

THE old school-house of this ancient foundation having become very much dilapidated, the Town-council and trustees of the School, with the aid of the public, have just erected another edifice upon a more eligible site than the old one. The new school-house, of which we give an engraving, is situated at the entrance to the town, on the London road, near the Essex and Colchester Hospital, and stands on a healthy and gravelly soil. Accommodation is provided for 60 day scholars and 20 boarders. The principal school-room is 41 feet long by 20 feet 6 inches wide, and 15 feet high. There is also a class-room, boarders' dining-room, day washing-room, and dormitories for boarders; to which is added the head-master's residence, comprising drawing and dining-rooms, study, four bed-rooms, with dressing-rooms; besides attics, kitchen, and other necessary offices. The style of architecture is that of the late Tudor, and the building is of red brick; the facings and window mouldings, mullions, &c., being of stone. The play-ground, which adjoins the building on the south side, is about half an acre in extent, and is separated from the master's garden by a wall. The architect is Mr. H. Hayward, of Colchester; and the building has been erected at a cost of between £3000 and £4000.

Colchester Free Grammar-school was founded by Henry VIII., in the year 1539; but it was not effectually endowed until the 25th year of Elizabeth, who, by letters patent, re-granted the revenues of the dissolved chantries in the Chapel of St. Helen and in the Church of St. Mary towards the endowment of a free school.

The exhibitions and scholarships consist of a scholarship founded in 1620, in St. John's College, Cambridge, by the executors of Mary Lewis; and a fellowship and scholarship in the same College, founded by Ambrose Gilbert in 1642, conditionally, in default of the Gilberts and Torkingtons, to Colchester School. Amongst its earliest records (1637),



NEW GRAMMAR-SCHOOL, AT COLCHESTER.

found in the register of the then master, the Rev. W. Dugard, are the following curious particulars—that it was customary in winter for the scholars to bring each a pound of candles to light the School, to subscribe one shilling each to entertain the visitors on speech days, and to dispute (or wrangle) once a week for a sum of money made up of the contributions of each scholar's farthing.

Several celebrated men have received their education at this School. The eminent Dr. Parr was for some time master, and under him the School greatly flourished. Amongst the scholars are to be found the names of an Archbishop of York, and of the present Astronomer Royal, whose name, carved in large characters might, till very recently, be seen on one of the desks in the old school-house. We understand that this, with other similar relics, but of more ancient date, are to be preserved.

The neglected and unhealthy condition of the old school-house for many years effectually prevented all attempts on the part of the masters and others interested in its well-being to raise the school to its proper position. The mastership falling vacant, however, in the year 1851, it was considered a suitable time to attempt the erection of a new school-house; and the project was accordingly mooted by the Town-council of the borough, with whom the election of both masters and free scholars rests. The sum required was estimated at from £3000 to £4000; of this the trustees obtained legal sanction to raise £1200 by mortgage upon the school property, to be paid off in twenty years by a sinking fund; a further sum of £800 it was calculated would be realised from the sale of the old school-house; and a committee, formed for the purpose of raising the remainder of the amount required, guaranteed the sum of

£1600. The appeal was most liberally responded to, and the whole amount within £50 has been raised.

The appointment of the present head-master, Dr. Wright (formerly scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, and late Principal of the College, Leamington), has given the greatest satisfaction to the friends of the School, and to the inhabitants of the town generally.

The new building, described above, was opened on Tuesday, the 4th instant, when formal possession was given by the trustees to Dr. Wright. The Mayor (Francis Smythies, Esq., who presided), the Corporation, the Bishop of London (visitor to the school), Archdeacon Burney, a large body of the clergy of the town and neighbourhood, the High Sheriff (J. Gurdon Rebow, Esq.), the members for the borough (Lord John Manners and W. W. Hawkins, Esq.), and a large number of ladies, as well as of the inhabitants generally, filled the school-room, and took part in the proceedings of the day, which terminated by a collation at the Three Cups Hotel; at which there were about 200 present, including all the scholars.

## BAZAAR AT CARISBROOKE CASTLE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

LAST week a Bazaar was held on the old Archery Ground, at Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight, under the patronage of her most gracious Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in aid of the funds for rebuilding St. Thomas's Church, Newport, situated about a mile from the Castle. The scene was gay and animated in the extreme. The stalls, eleven in number, were arranged on the west side of the ground, and extended to a length of 160 feet. Above them were painted the names of the ladies who presided over them. The erection in which they were placed was gaily decorated with festoons of flowers and evergreens, and was surmounted with banners, which waved with every breeze that swept over the landscape. The grey castle-keep, a venerable relic of by-gone ages, looked down in stern majesty on the crowds assembled beneath, recalling those olden times in which the gay and the fair were assembled for a very different object—namely, to preside over the mimic battle-field, and to animate by their presence the knights who contended for the prizes of chivalry.

As the weather was unusually fine, great numbers had assembled from all quarters to witness the magnificent spectacle. The Bazaar was opened at one o'clock on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., with a procession, headed by the clergy of Newport, the Mayor, and the committee; who were followed by the children of the National and Blue Schools of Newport, with banners; and by the choirs of St. Thomas's and St. John's Churches. The whole was preceded by the band of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The procession formed at the Castle-gate, and proceeded through the time-worn ruins to the Bazaar ground, where some pieces were sung by the children. They afterwards marched out of the ground in the same order as before. The bands of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and of the Rifle Brigade, played throughout the day some spirit-stirring music. A scene so truly exhilarating has not often been witnessed in the south of England. The gay and tasteful decorations—the rich strains which floated around the spectator—the stalls piled with elegant and costly articles of various descriptions—the recollection of the events of which the Castle has been the theatre, dimly seen through the mist of intervening years—formed a *tout ensemble* which will not be easily effaced from the memory.

The Bazaar was opened under the presidency of Lady Worsley Holmes, assisted by various ladies of the neighbourhood. The articles for sale were of the most elegant description, and reflected the greatest credit on the ladies whose labour, skill, and taste had been taxed to the very utmost to produce them. We noticed some splendid pieces of tapestry and worsted work, representing important events and remarkable individuals; some beautiful table coverings, enriched with various colours; some elegant screens and groups of flowers; designs for carriage cushions in embroidery; splendid medallions and drawings, and vases of artificial flowers and fruit. On each of the stalls were placed copies of a poem on "Carisbrooke Castle," by the Rev. A. R. Pennington, Curate of Newport, just published.

Nearly 2000 persons visited the Bazaar on the first and second days



LORD MARCUS HILL.—FROM A PAINTING BY F. A. SAY.

(Wednesday and Thursday), when the charges for admission were 2s. 6d. and 1s.; and on the third day (Friday), when the charge was reduced to 6d., about 2500 were present. On Wednesday and Thursday the Bazaar was honoured with the presence of the daughter of the Emperor of Russia, now staying at Ryde. On Friday the Hon. Colonel Phipps attended, and made various purchases on behalf of her most gracious Majesty the Queen. The result of the Bazaar has been most satisfactory. Enough has been received to add about £1000 to the building fund, after all the expenses have been paid.

"We congratulate (says the *Hampshire Telegraph*) the zealous promoters of the rebuilding of Newport Church on the unexampled success of their spirited undertaking, which might with propriety be called a 'Isle of Wight Industrial Exhibition.' The music of the bands of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers and Rifle Brigade, was excellent, adding much to the enjoyment of the Bazaar; while the concentration of female beauty could not have been surpassed even in the days of chivalry, when an Island Queen gave balls, and tilts, and tournaments within those walls, now devoted to a higher and nobler purpose, the raising of a temple for the worship of Almighty God."

## LORD MARCUS HILL.

For twenty years—from 1832 to 1852—there was no name better known "about the House" than that of Lord Marcus Hill. Individual characteristics rendered him the illustration of a system; and, if historians



BAZAAR IN THE OLD ARCHERY-GROUND, AT CARISBROOKE CASTLE, IN AID OF REBUILDING ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, NEWPORT.



ever went beyond the surface—or if Lord Marcus had kept such a diary as Popsy compiled—he would live in history identified with that era of British representative institutions intervening between the two Reform Bills—that in 1832 and that (promised) in 1854. Lord Marcus Hill was what Dr. Johnson called “a clubbable man, sir,” and it was that quality which made him so universal a favourite with the House of Commons during those several sessions in which the House, while fulfilling much of the requisites of a national Senate, was also, from peculiarities of its origin and constitution, a good deal of an aristocratic club.

During those twenty years there were various leaders of the House—Lord Althorp, Lord John Russell, Sir Robert Peel, and Mr. Disraeli; but there was only one leader of the club—Lord Marcus Hill. Different Cabinets arranged a various series of measures; but there was only one administration in the “kitchen”—that of Lord Marcus Hill. And in the long reign of the Whigs, from 1830 to 1841, and from 1846 to 1852, while many men rose and fell in the confidence of the chiefs of the party, to one man they continuously confided a great annual duty, only secondary in importance to the preparation of a Royal speech: Lord Marcus Hill, during all those years, ordered the white-bait dinner, at Greenwich. His position in the world of *gourmets* justified that confidence; and his high character, in this respect, was tested and proved by various incidents. To Lord Marcus Hill the Reform Club was indebted for the fame and the genuine excellence of its *cuisine*. It is a theory, indeed, in that establishment, that he invented, or rather discovered, Soyer; and in the “Regenerator” of that celebrated *chef* it will be seen that Soyer is represented as holding such a weighty dialogue with Lord Marcus as Horace held with his *Mecenas*. But the reference on these matters to Lord Marcus Hill did not proceed from one party alone. He was trusted by all; and to him—more even than to Mr. F. French, Mr. Stafford, or Lord Mulgrave—is the present House of Commons indebted for its “comforts” in its club aspect, more especially for its dining-room, and that *carte*, which—more comprehensive than the “votes paper,” now contains all the “independent motions” of an assembly certainly disorganised in regard to tastes.

It would, however, be offering a very imperfect view of the character and position of this amiable nobleman if it were allowed to be supposed that he gave up entirely to the club which was meant for the House. He was, however, in such a position in regard to the House as to permit him to develop unchecked his kindly clubbable tendencies. That his party had a great opinion of his reliability, and capacity as a politician and man of the world, is evidenced in the circumstance that he was the Whig “whip” for many years; and this post he filled with pleasure to himself and satisfaction to the party—into the bargain, making a House, keeping a House, and cheering the Minister (the Canning definition of a “whip’s” function), without making one enemy. He was devoted to his party. The son of a Marquis, and bred in the diplomatic service, he joined the Whigs when a young man, at a time when such an adhesion was not only unfashionable, but dangerous to “prospects;” and from his allegiance he never swerved; having the consciousness, when he retired from the arena, where undoubtedly he has been missed, of knowing that during twenty years his vote was given for a consistent series of “reforms,” not one of which does the nation now regret. A nobler race few politicians can boast of running; and the real greatness of such a life is not diminished by the modesty of the quiet career and the unostentatious endurance of a subordinate rôle, in which, whatever fame was to be obtained, was procured, not by bustling appeals to the public, but by unobtrusive efforts (which only the House itself could appreciate) usefully to carry on business—the business of the club as well as that of the House.

But the same qualities which made Lord Marcus Hill so popular at Westminster provided him a solace for the absence of that earnest attention which the public pays to public men who take care to keep themselves before it—he was a favourite with his constituency at Evesham. We have reason to believe that it is no exaggeration to say that Lord Marcus Hill had the affections of the people of Evesham. Early in his political life he had sat for Newry; but of late years ever since 1837, he has only been known in the House as “the noble Lord the member for Evesham;” and the relations between him and the borough were altogether peculiar—not unprecedented, but unparalleled in our representative generation. To understand this, it should be remembered what was the former reputation of Evesham. In speaking of it, in 1831, Lord John Russell said that “corruption infested Evesham like a leprosy.” It was one of the vilest of the small boroughs up to 1837; when Lord Marcus Hill went down and stood, and was beaten by Sir Charles Cockerell and Mr. Peter Borthwick, and was seated on petition; and then becoming such a favourite that ever after, until he chose to resign, he was at the head of the poll, and kept off all bribery. That petition was a very celebrated one. Sir Robert Peel was chairman of the committee—the only election committee he ever presided over; and the present Sir Alexander Cockburn, who had been engaged (then an unknown man) by the shrewd Mr. Coppock, who never made a mistake, to lead in the case for the petitioners, obtained on that occasion his first reputation; among other things, for a reading (which made a good deal of noise at the time) of a piece of latinity, inscribed by Mr. Borthwick on a snuff-box he gave to an elector, viz., “Ex dono amici sui qui conducit,” rendered by Sir Alexander—“A gift of a friend of his who bribed him.” Lord Marcus Hill had to fight some contests after 1837; but they were legitimate battles, and, on the whole, Evesham under his influence, redeemed its reputation. He would have been returned again at the last election if he would have stood; but it is believed that his Lordship has family reasons which induce him to relinquish what to one of his genial nature and happy position, must have been thoroughly enjoyable—life “about the House.”

Lord Marcus Hill, third son of the second Marquis of Downshire, was born in Hanover-square, 1798. In 1837, he married Louisa, daughter of J. Blake, Esq. He was Comptroller of the Household from July, 1846, to July, 1847.

The accompanying Portrait is engraved from a picture painted by Mr. F. A. Say, and was presented to Lady Marcus Hill, by the Liberal constituency of Evesham, on the 21st ult. The Town-hall was appropriately decorated for the occasion, and was speedily filled with the towns people; when Lord Marcus Hill, Lady Hill, and Miss Hill, their eldest daughter, were introduced. The Mayor, H. Workman, Esq., upon whom devolved the duty of the presentation, occupied the chair. The Portrait was placed in an elevated position upon an easel. The elegant gilt frame is the gift of Mr. Grenville Berkeley, member for the borough. At the top of the frame was inscribed, “Lord Hill, 1832.” At the foot is the following inscription:—

Presented to Lady Marcus Hill by his Lordship’s constituents and friends in and about Evesham, upon his retirement from Parliament, after faithfully representing the borough for fifteen years, as a lasting testimony of their feelings of esteem and attachment towards him.

The proceedings commenced by the singing of a glee. The chairman then, in an eloquent address, recapitulating the Parliamentary connection of Lord Marcus Hill with Evesham, presented the portrait to Lady Marcus Hill, accompanied by a list of subscribers.

Lord Hill rose, and was received with many demonstrations of esteem.

You have been pleased (said his Lordship) in that spirit of indulgence which has for a series of years characterised your intercourse with me, to mark your approbation of my public and private character, and to select the channel of one most truly and justly dear to me, deeming that her gratification would be the truest source of satisfaction to myself (Applause). Lady Marcus is, I assure you, most anxious to have conveyed to you the expression of her deepest gratitude for the valued gift this day presented to her—a gift which she prizes more inasmuch as she sees in it an earnest of that regard and esteem which she knows how fondly I have coveted and truly do appreciate. Lady Marcus entreats you to accept the thanks of an overflowing heart (Great cheering). Ladies and gentlemen, here I might have sat down without reference to a subject most painful to my feelings, which it has pleased the worthy Mayor to touch upon in language most consolatory to my feelings—I mean my late retirement from the representation of this borough. You are all aware that some warnings of deteriorated health rendered it imperative upon me to give up a position so honourable and flattering in my estimation. Few representatives have had the advantages which, through your partiality, have devolved upon me. It was my duty, and it soon became my delight, to come amongst you periodically, in order to ascertain your wishes, and to cultivate a becoming intercourse with you; and I may say that, being allowed my full and entire liberty of opinion and action, I never, during the whole period of our connection, incurred any symptom of your disapprobation. Each succeeding visit served to increase our friendly relations; and therefore most painful was it to my feelings to be compelled to be a party to their severance; but the memory of them will ever be dear to my heart; and, though our public connection is ended, I trust I may be permitted to claim the continuance of your private friendship and regard, and still to frequent occasionally scenes which have been productive of the highest gratification to me (Long-continued cheering).

Another glee was sung, and the proceedings terminated.

A collation was then served in the Council-chamber, the Mayor presiding. Several appropriate toasts were drunk. In the evening a Ball was given at the Guildhall, to which only the subscribers to the Testimonial and their friends had the *entree*; but there were present upwards of 100 other guests.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

#### THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The affairs of the East were again the subject of conversation, upon a complaint by the Marquis of CLANRICARDE of the mode in which the Russians were administering the civil government of the Danubian Principalities. The Russian occupation was either war or piracy. He asserted it was a state of war, that had abolished all treaties as between Russia and Turkey, so far as Turkey was concerned. The Earl of CLARENDON replied that he had no information except what he derived from the newspapers of the acts committed by the Russian Government in Moldavia and Wallachia. The Government had received letters from Jassy of the 27th, and from Bucharest of the 26th, which spoke of the presence of the Russian troops being productive of inconvenience; the peasants, it was said, being withdrawn from their agricultural labours, and compelled to do a certain amount of work for them; but there was no mention of any recruits being drawn from the inhabitants of the Principalities. He saw every reason to hope that the negotiations upon the Eastern question were proceeding towards an honourable and peaceful conclusion, and the more so because the question was no longer one simply between Russia and the Porte, or even a question between England and France, closely united in support of the Porte, and Russia. It had now assumed a European aspect, and the Porte and its allies were acting together in order to check proceedings which they deemed inconsistent with the balance of power, and the territorial distribution established in Europe. This was a position of affairs which must be satisfactory to their Lordships and the country, because it was likely to lead to a satisfactory and permanent conclusion. The Earl of MALMESBURY said it was impossible to conceive, when two powerful nations like England and France stood forth in defence of such a country as Turkey—if they were perfectly agreed on their line of defence, and on the policy to be pursued in their negotiations—but that their united efforts must be crowned with success. Some definite explanation was to be expected from the Government, before the prorogation of Parliament, as to the position of the Eastern question. It was particularly desirable that there should be a clear understanding as to the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities by Russia. Lord CLARENDON had no hesitation in saying, that he considered the immediate and complete evacuation of the Principalities as a *sine qua non* of any agreement with Russia. The House might rely that every information consistent with the public service would be laid before Parliament prior to the close of the session. In reply to Lord Ellenborough, Lord CLARENDON stated that the Government had no official information of a demand recently made on the Shah of Persia by the Emperor of Russia.

#### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA BILL.

The House went into committee on this bill, when its clauses were discussed at considerable length. Several amendments were proposed by the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, the majority of which were rejected. The only important alteration in the bill as it came from the Commons took place on clause 44, providing that the salt monopoly should cease; and that the manufacture and sale of salt in India should be absolutely free, subject only to excise or other duty.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved that the clause be rejected, though he thought that the motion might have been made more properly by one of her Majesty’s Ministers, as the clause formed no part of their original proposition. At the same time he was ready to move its rejection, because he believed it would operate most injuriously, and because it constituted a most unwarrantable interference with the financial arrangements of India. This interference had been proposed, not for the advantage of the people of India, but for the benefit of a small number of persons employed in this country in the manufacture of salt; and the whole of the Indian revenue derived from salt would be imperilled if the clause passed into law. The clause established no regulations which would facilitate the collection of the tax; and, in order to raise the duty on salt, it would be necessary, if the clause passed, to employ an army of excisemen in India. If smuggling were practised, as it certainly would be, the price of the article would be so reduced that, after all, the importer would not obtain that advantage which he anticipated. There had been, in preceding years, an increase of consumption, and a large reduction in price; but it must be remembered that the revenue in India did not rise with the same elasticity as the revenue in this country. While their Lordships were creating what was described as a better government for India, and enlarging the legislative council; while they were endeavouring to give consistency and dignity to the Government of India, it was not right to interfere for the first time in a matter strictly of internal regulation; and it was not fitting or seemly, for the purpose of giving a small additional profit to certain traders in England at the expense of India, to imperil the revenue of that country. It was better to treat India as a perfectly independent country in matters of finance. In India there were not the means of commuting taxation, as the natives felt the greatest indisposition to pay any new tax; and for these reasons he moved that the clause be expunged.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE concurred in what had fallen from the noble Earl as to the impolicy of interference with local taxation; but, at the same time, expressed his disappointment that this hateful monopoly—which affected the health of the people, and caused, from the tax imposed, extreme misery and distress among the people of India—was to continue. The noble Earl here referred to certain statistical papers for the purpose of showing how greatly the tax on salt checked the consumption. He still hoped that the Government in India might have instructions from the home Government to alleviate this most distressing and grievous tax.

The motion of the Earl of Ellenborough was then agreed to, and the clause was expunged.

The next and final clause of the bill having been adopted, the House adjourned.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

At the early morning the House, sitting in a Committee of Supply, was occupied with the discussion of the votes for the Civil Service Estimates, the Supplementary Estimate for the Royal Naval Coast Volunteers, the Post-office Packet Service, and other estimates. On the vote of £200,000 for the Kaffir War, Mr. ADDERLEY took occasion to call the attention of the House to the policy of the Duke of Newcastle respecting the frontier arrangements at the Cape of Good Hope. He condemned especially the abandonment of the Orange River Sovereignty, which territory, he considered, furnished a better frontier than the Kei, and its relinquishment would entail the loss of Natal, and must necessarily give rise to future wars, which would now be presented at the expense of this country.

Mr. F. PEEL observed that her Majesty’s Government were of opinion, in concurrence with the last and the preceding Administrations, that it was desirable to contract, instead of extending, our territory in South Africa; that the acquisition of the Orange River Sovereignty had been the consequence of information which experience had proved to be inaccurate; that during the five years since its annexation to the Cape, it had been productive of no advantage; but, during the Kaffir War, it had been a constant source of uneasiness. Sir GEORGE CLEEK, appointed a Special Commissioner to the Cape, had, he said, received instructions, not so much to abandon the Orange River Sovereignty as to withdraw the protection of this country. He justified the measure upon legal grounds, and contended that Natal could not be prejudiced thereby, since it was separated from the Sovereignty by a secure mountain boundary.

At the evening sitting, Lord J. RUSSELL promised, before the prorogation of Parliament, to give all the information on the Eastern question which could be furnished consistently with the interests of the public service. He declined (in answer to Mr. DISRAELI) to state the nature of the proposals accepted by the Emperor of Russia.

#### THE NAVAL REVIEW AT SPITHEAD.

Mr. OLIVEIRA said, it was understood that some arrangements were contemplated for the accommodation of members to view the naval evolutions that were to take place at Spithead on Thursday. Perhaps the right hon. Baronet at the head of the Admiralty would give some information on the point, and at the same time state whether any arrangement could be made by which the wives of members could be made partakers of the spectacle (A laugh).

Sir J. GRAHAM said, that the hon. gentleman’s question had assumed a somewhat unparliamentary form (Laughter); but the House would perhaps allow him to give the fullest answer in his power. He had received her Majesty’s commands to place at the disposal of each of the Houses of Parliament a ship of war on the occasion; and, in obedience to this command, he had ordered a ship of war of 950 tons, and 280-horse power, to be got ready for the accommodation of members of the Upper House; and for that of the members of the Lower House—their numbers being greater—a ship of 1200 tons and 500-horse power.

The evolutions would comprise about thirty ships of war, so that there would be very few ships available for other purposes. The vessel he had ordered for the use of members of that House would accommodate about 200 gentlemen; Mr. Speaker, however, had been so obliging as to consent to receive the names of members who wished to be present; and if by four o’clock to-morrow it should appear that more than 200 names had been inscribed on the list, he would endeavour to make some further arrangement. He regretted to add that it would be impossible for him to supply accommodation also for the wives of members. The difficulty of providing the means of conveyance to Portsmouth was even greater than the difficulty of providing ships at Portsmouth; and, unless very speedy arrangements were made, that difficulty would become insuperable. He had at present made arrangements for a special train to leave London at the early hour of half-past six in the morning, which would reach Portsmouth at half-past nine, and which would accommodate at least 500 or 600 members of the two Houses. He trusted this arrangement would be considered satisfactory.

Mr. HUME said, of course the measure of accommodation would be completed by sending members down free (Laughter).

Sir J. GRAHAM replied: Not by any means (Laughter). Every member going down and returning (for the arrangement had been made for a return) by the train would pay his full fare to and fro (Laughter).

The House then went again into Committee of Supply, when the remaining votes, including the Militia Estimates, were agreed to, after discussion.

On the order for going into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. E. BAILL moved a resolution condemnatory of the duty on malt. He only wished that the farmer might be allowed to prepare his barley, so that he might fairly compete with the foreigner, and brew beer from malt of his own growth. The motion was negatived; and the House then went into a Committee of Ways and Means, when a sum was voted out of the Consolidated Fund and the surplus of Ways and Means.

On the third reading of the Charitable Trusts Bill, Mr. LUCAS wished that, either in this bill or in some future measure, provision should be made for placing Roman Catholic trusts upon a more satisfactory basis. Lord J. RUSSELL said, the attention of the Government was turned to the subject, and it was their intention to introduce next session a bill which would, in an unobjectionable manner, include Roman Catholic charities within the purview of this bill. The bill was read a third time, and several new clauses were added without opposition.

The Ministers’ Money (Ireland) Bill was withdrawn.

The Smoke Nuisance Abatement (Metropolis) Bill, which stood for committal, gave rise to considerable debate. Mr. SPOONER, who moved to defer the committee for three months, insisted that the bill required an impossibility, that the producers of smoke could not consume it. Lord PALMERSTON remarked that the objection “it cannot be done,” had been the argument offered against all improvements; but, if Parliament said, “Gentlemen, you must consume your smoke,” smoke would be consumed. Upon a division, the amendment was negatived by sixty-six to twelve, and the bill passed through the committee.

Mr. WALPOLE obtained leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to bribery, treating, and intimidation at elections. The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to four o’clock a.m.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Eastern Union Railway Bill was read a second time on the motion of Lord DONOUGHMORE.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE moved the second reading of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill, the Tenants’ Improvement Compensation Bill, and the Leasing Powers (Ireland) Bill. An attempt had been made to persuade the public that these measures involved the spoliation of property, but such a view was entirely mistaken. In point of fact, these bills originated with the late Attorney-General for Ireland (Mr. Napier), who deserved the highest praise for having grappled with a difficulty which had eluded the efforts of several Governments. They had been submitted to the approval of the most distinguished men of the Irish bar, and they had been sanctioned by the experience of practical agriculturists, so that they came before their Lordships with the highest testimonials. The noble Duke called on the House to read these bills a second time; and thereby contribute to the welfare and progress of Ireland. The Marquis of CLANRICARDE recommended the House to suffer the bills to be read a second time, and then to refer them to a select committee. At this late period of the session, in the absence of some of the most distinguished members of the House, they were called on to pass three most important bills in ten days, which had occupied the attention of the House of Commons for as many months. The Earl of MALMESBURY had consulted with Lord Derby on the subject, and the proposal he should make to the House was to reject the Tenants’ Compensation Bill, but to permit the two other bills to pass through committee. The Earl of RODEN thought all the bills, but more especially one of them, so unjust to the holders of property in Ireland, that he wondered how they could ever have passed the House of Commons. He hoped the House would reject all the bills. The Earl of WICKLOW thought it desirable that the Tenants’ Compensation Bill should be referred to a select committee. After some observations from Lord ST. LEONARDS, the bills were read a second time, on the understanding that they were not to be proceeded with this session; the Earl of ABERDEEN pledging himself to bring the matter before the House of Lords early next session, and to refer it to a select committee.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

At the early sitting, the South Sea and other Annuities, &c., Bill was read a third time and passed. The object of the bill is to enable proprietors of South Sea Stock, having no vote at general courts, to commute, and for other purposes connected with South Sea Stock. The South Sea Company, if authorised to undertake private trusts, may commute for the purpose of forming a guarantee fund. Before the 25th of December next the Treasury may appoint times within which assents of the company to commute shall be signified, and to fix terms of commutation into Three-and-a-Quarter per cent Annuities. There are eight sections in the bill to carry out the intention of the Government with respect to the South Sea Stock.

The House then went into committee upon the Transportation Bill, when Lord PALMERSTON gave an exposition of the views of the Government upon the subject of secondary punishments. Hitherto our colonies had enabled us to make transportation beyond the seas one of our secondary punishments; but this resource having now failed—the feelings of the colonists revolting against being brought into contact with our criminals, and a great event having changed the condition of our Australian colonies—the system must be altered. The first result to which the Government were led was the necessity of ceasing to transport offenders to the colonies, except a small number to Western Australia; and the bill proposed to empower the Courts to alter the sentences. It was proposed that after a certain period of preliminary imprisonment the offender should be capable of receiving a ticket-of-leave in this country, liable to be revoked. He thought that, with regard to a great portion of those who were sentenced to transportation, reformation was by no means a hopeless object, and every effort would be made to accomplish it. When those persons who had conditional tickets-of-leave were to be released, the grave question arose, where were they to go, and how were they to be employed? He had every reason to believe that means would be found of giving all these persons employment upon the public works, apart from the convicts, at suitable wages; from which occupation, without a stigma, they might slide into the ordinary avocations of honest industry. The charge for providing additional accommodation would be borne by the public; but, as the cost of transporting criminals would be no longer incurred, there would be a very considerable annual saving of expenditure. The whole system must be considered in a great degree experimental; but he believed that this was the best mode that could be devised to meet the great change to which he had referred. Sir J. PAKINGTON and other hon. members expressed their opinions upon the general question, and the clauses of the bill were then discussed and agreed to.

In the evening, the report of the Committee of Supply was brought up, and, on the vote of £407,000 for the Government prisons in Great Britain and Ireland, Mr. LUCAS complained that two different systems of prison discipline, in respect to the religious instruction of the prisoners, prevailed in the prisons of Great Britain and Ireland respectively; that in Ireland, as in the colonies, there had been a system of perfect religious equality, which did not exist in the English prisons.—Lord PALMERSTON said that, as far as the Government prisons were concerned, he had taken steps to carry into effect the views expressed by Mr. Lucas—namely, that Roman Catholics and Dissenters, as well as prisoners belonging to the Church of England, should receive religious instruction from clergymen of their own persuasion—this being one of the ingredients of the improved system of prison discipline. With regard to county prisons, he was inclined to think that some legislative alterations would be necessary; and, if so, it would be his duty next session to prepare some measure for giving to prisoners in county gaols religious instruction on the same principle as that adopted in prisons.



under the immediate control of the Crown. The resolutions were agreed to, as well as those of the Committee of Ways and Means.

On the order for going into committee upon the Metropolitan Sewers Act Continuance Bill, Lord PALMERSTON moved an instruction to the committee that they have power to make provision in the bill as to moneys borrowed, or to be borrowed, under the acts, stating the sum (£200,000) he intended to propose in committee that the Commissioners should be empowered to raise. Sir B. HALL entered upon a severe criticism of the past conduct of the Commissioners, and the existing state of the metropolitan sewers. In the discussion which ensued, bitter complaints were made of the irresponsibility of the Board—the want of control on the part of the ratepayers—the extravagant outlay upon sewage works, and their imperfection; Mr. Peto stigmatising these works as a disgrace to the country. Upon a division, Lord Palmerston's motion was carried by seventy-one to thirty-two, and the House went into committee on the bill; when Lord PALMERSTON gave an assurance that nothing should be done with the money which was not approved by Sir W. Cubitt and Mr. K. Stephenson, and that some general system should be adopted that would relieve the Thames from the ignominious duty it had performed, of being the common sewer of London, instead of its ornament. He thought that while, on the one hand, the ratepayers had reason to complain that they were left without relief, on the other, the commissioners, who were anxious to effect that object, might also complain that they had not funds to execute works which they believed to be absolutely necessary. There were 2000 miles of streets in the metropolis, and only 900 miles of drains.

#### THE LATE CAB STRIKE.

On the third reading of the Hackney Carriage Duties Bill, various clauses were proposed by Colonel SIBTHORP and other members, and negatived.

Mr. F. SCULLY moved a clause the object of which was to prevent the withdrawal of carriages for two days in one week without just cause or previous notice. The clause was as follows:—

That the proprietor of every hackney carriage, or metropolitan stage carriage, licensed to ply for hire within the limits of this act, who shall withdraw his carriage from hire for two consecutive days, or for any two days in one week, without just cause, of which the magistrate before whom the complaint is heard shall be the judge, shall be liable to a penalty of a sum not exceeding 20s. in respect of every carriage for each day he shall so withdraw the same; and the license of such proprietor shall be suspended or recalled and taken away at the discretion of the said Commissioners of Police: provided always, that it shall be lawful for such proprietor, upon giving ten days' notice to the Commissioners of Police, to withdraw his carriage from hire.

Mr. FREWEN said, it had been calculated that the loss to the proprietors of cabs from the three days' strike, amounted to £2500. (Sir J. SHELLEY: £2000 a day.) This would be a sufficient caution to them how they struck work again.

Lord D. STUART opposed the clause, which he thought would have a tyrannical effect. It was, besides, an interference with Free-trade.

Sir J. SHELLEY entirely differed from his noble friend. It must be recollected that the House had not only the cab proprietors to protect, but the public out of doors (Hear, hear); and he must say that the cab and omnibus proprietors had shown they had more power than it was thought they possessed, and had exercised that power to the great inconvenience of the public, who could not protect themselves. He thought the proposed clause nothing more than a reasonable one, and should cordially support it.

Mr. W. J. FOX would add, that there was a third class of persons who needed protection, and that was the cab-drivers. When the proprietors took their cabs off the stands they deprived the drivers of their work and wages, and it was within his knowledge that many drivers (who were entirely dependent upon their masters) were very much annoyed as well as injured by the strike which had lately taken place.

Mr. LOWE thought recent events had shown that the proprietors of public carriages possessed a great and important power, with which it was not safe to intrust them. A more unwarrantable annoyance to the public than the recent cab-strike could hardly be imagined. On the Monday those who represented the cab proprietors had seen his hon. friend the Secretary to the Treasury, and had obtained from him assurances of concession on two points to which they attached much weight, and both of which had been since carried out. Notwithstanding, however, the assurances these persons obtained, they had chosen not to wait and see if they would be carried out, but "struck," and by withdrawing their vehicles produced the greatest inconvenience to the public and much loss to the drivers. All they had got by the strike they had been promised before; and yet, after it was all over, they met together and congratulated each other upon the triumph they had achieved. He knew, also, that it was in the contemplation of the omnibus proprietors, who could not pretend that they had any grievance, and who had the power of regulating their own fares—to strike, he supposed out of mere gaiety of heart (a laugh), for the purpose of assisting the proprietors of cabs. Now, he did not want to take any measure in a retaliatory spirit; but he thought it was only just that the public should be protected from combinations like these, entered into not so much for the purpose of carrying any point, as of showing the power of the proprietors, and of producing public inconvenience. His hon. friend the Secretary to the Treasury approved of the clause proposed by the hon. member, and he therefore hoped the House would agree to it.

The clause was then passed through committee, and was added to the bill.

Sir W. CLAY, in seconding the motion, complained that the East and West India Docks, and the important districts clustered around, were cut off from the circle of four miles which had been adopted, while Hampstead Heath and part of Tooting Common were embraced within it. In his opinion it would be much more advantageous to have an ellipse than a circle.

Mr. SPOONER suggested that there should be two points of departure—Charing Cross for the cabs going west, and St. Paul's for those going east.

Mr. LOWE did not consider it necessary to re-open the question of the two centres, which had already been thoroughly discussed. He was quite willing to accept the amendment of the hon. member for Cork.

The clause was then agreed to.

Mr. FREWEN moved to amend clause fourteen, by providing that when a carriage shall be hired or discharged between twelve at night and half-past four in the morning, the hirer shall pay half as much again in addition to the fare directed under the act.

The motion was negatived.

Lord D. STUART moved a series of clauses, giving the power of appeal from the decisions of police magistrates in cases of refusal or revocation of licenses, or of penalty, under the act.

Mr. LOWE suggested various objections to giving an appeal—a question which had been very fully discussed in the committee on the other bill and negatived.

Mr. I. BUTT supported the motion, which, upon a division, was negatived by 41 to 27.

The bill then passed.

Sir J. SHELLEY obtained leave to bring in a bill to establish a Metropolitan Board of Sewers.

The House adjourned at one o'clock.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair shortly after twelve o'clock.

Mr. CARDWELL, in answer to a question from Mr. Warner, said he could now say that it was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill next session to amend the present law of partnership, with a view to facilitate the formation of companies or partnerships, with limited liability, without the necessity of a charter or act of incorporation. The subject was under the consideration of a commission to inquire, and until the report of that commission was received the Government could give no pledge with respect to the matter.

Mr. F. PEEL, in reply to a question from Colonel Dunne, said that General Cathcart had recommended that two Swiss regiments should be employed to defend the frontiers of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, but no steps had yet been taken on the subject, and the troops could not be sent out without applying to Parliament for the necessary funds.

The Consolidated Fund Bill was read a second time.

The Friendly Societies Bill, as amended, was considered and agreed to. The Customs Bill and the Customs Acts Consolidation Bill were read a third time and passed.

The Loan Societies Bill was read a third time and passed; as were also the Stock in Trade Exemption Bill, Registrar of Meetings Bill, Public Works Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill, Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill, the Militia Ballots Suspension and Militia Law Amendment Bill, Militia Pay Bill, the Commons Inclosure (No. 3) Bill.

After some further business, the House adjourned till ten o'clock tomorrow night, Lord PALMERSTON having previously announced that on Friday the House would not meet until four o'clock.

(Continued on page 119.)

#### RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

##### RANDOM NOTES AND SKETCHES

MADE ON THE WAY TO CONSTANTINOPLE, JULY, 1853.

(FOURTH LETTER.)

(From our Special Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 25.

In order that we might have a day at Pesth, we determined upon starting from Vienna in the boat which plies daily to the Hungarian capital, on Thursday (14th), being the day before the swift boat started. The hour of departure was six in the morning. We were first embarked on the Danube canal, nearly opposite the Lamb Hotel, in a very small boat, flat-bottomed, and about half the length of a Chelsea steamer, which conveyed us down to the Kaisermühlen, at the end of the Prater, where the larger boat received us. The passengers were very numerous; and amongst them were several officers, with their wives and families, who were proceeding to join their respective regiments, already on the march to the frontiers. The deck being only just large enough to stow away the luggage, and to permit of the operations of the crew, all the passengers were ordered below; where, what with the heat of the early sun-rays and the smell of tobacco-smoke, the atmosphere was almost unbearable. Fortunately we were not kept long in this position. In half an hour we came alongside the larger steamer, in which we were to perform our voyage, and in a quarter of an hour more were fairly under way.

The Danube Steam Company is a monopoly, by virtue of a Government concession, first granted in 1828 to two enterprising Englishmen, named Andrews and Pritchard, and afterwards carried on with a success, which did not attend it at first, under the auspices of Baron Puthon and Count Stephen Széchenyi. The term of the concession has been increased at different intervals, and is now fixed to extend to the year 1880. The company now possess a capital estimated at 10,000,000 florins (about a million sterling), which is every year increasing. They pay a dividend of 12½ per cent annually, besides laying by 15 per cent annually for building more ships. This fleet now numbers eighty-six steamers and 260 iron barges, which are used for the conveyance of merchandise, being towed by steamers.

Very soon after leaving Vienna we found that the Danube had overflowed its banks in all directions. The few houses, or hovels, which we saw along the course of the river, were under water; some of them reduced to ruins. Here and there were extensive fields of stacked hay standing two or three feet deep in water. In short all was desolation—as it were a scene after the great Deluge.

Immediately on embarking, *café au lait*, served in tumblers (!), with small slices of bread to dip in it, was the order of the day; and sufficed to keep off hunger till one o'clock, when dinner was promised. With the exception of the villages of Aspern, Epling, and Ebersdorf—historically interesting for having been the scene of some of Napoleon's exploits—there was nothing along the banks to call for particular notice until we arrived at Presburg—a journey of three hours from Vienna. There, about a score of our fellow-passengers left us; but as somewhat more than that number joined company, we did not gain anything by the exchange; in short, throughout the voyage, wherever we stopped, there was a pretty equal balance kept of incomers and outgoers, so that the vessel was inconveniently crowded.

Presburg, the former capital of Hungary, is finely situated on a projecting point of ground. The royal palace in which Maria Theresa, only a hundred and twelve years ago, 1741, made that touching appeal to her subjects which elicited the fervent exclamation, "Moriatur pro rege nostro Maria Theresa!" is now in ruins. Its square walls, with four towers at the angles, are all that remain to tell of the loyalty and chivalry of the past.

After quitting Presburg the Danube spreads itself into a lake-like expanse, with arms stretching in all directions. The country on both sides is flat and uninteresting—a good deal covered with trees, which, as far as our eyes could reach, were half submerged in water.

We looked forward with considerable interest to our arrival at Komorn, the famous fortress, where, in 1849 the Hungarians under Klapka made a successful stand against the Austrians, and only surrendered after the treachery of Georgey had left the cause hopeless. The fortress is built on low ground, nearly on a level with the water; but is very extensive, and is so scientifically designed as to be considered impregnable. The town, which lies behind the old fortress, we were told was under water; such the devastation which prevails every where, for the want of the precautions necessary to retain the river within moderate limits.

The next place of importance we touched at was Grau, the seat of an Archbishopric—the cathedral of which, on the brow of a hill, is a conspicuous object for many miles around. It is a modern edifice (very recently completed) of the Italian style of architecture, with a dome supported by Corinthian pillars, a portico of the same order, and statues of Christ and the Apostles on the walls.

From this point the Danube takes a sudden bend, and, leaving its old flat, marshy haunts, runs in a narrower bed between two chains of porphyry mountains. We here come upon the railroad from Vienna to Pesth, which for some distance runs along the bank of the river. The scenery throughout this portion of the *trajet* was very beautiful—quite a relief after the desolate sameness which had prevailed hitherto. Following this picturesque valley, we arrived at the ruins of the ancient castle of Visegrad, once the favourite seat of the Hungarian Kings, and the scene of many a barbarous incident in feudal history. The solitary tower by the water-side was the prison of the unhappy Salamon, who was deposed and prosecuted by his cousin, Ladislaus, and whose romantic adventures furnish forth many a tome of contemporary archives.

We turned out a larger number than usual of our passengers at Waitzen (another episcopal town), including many officers and their families. We also took in some, who, by their exertions, relieved the tedium of our voyage as it drew to a close. Then the police-officers came on board, and the process of examining passports (which we had shown on entering the boat at Vienna) was gone through, *selon les règles*. The passports were taken from us, as usual, and tickets given for their recovery—the principal gainers by these transactions, by the way, being the *commissionaires* at the hotels, who make a charge of about thirty kreutzers (one shilling) per passport for collecting them.

Buda is the old capital of Hungary, Pesth the modern and rising town; the former stands on the right, the latter on the left bank of the river. They were formerly connected by means of a bridge of boats; which, however, was burned in the course of the Hungarian war (April, 1849). There is now a handsome iron suspension bridge, built by Mr. T. Clark, the engineer of the Hammersmith-bridge, commenced in 1840, and completed in 1849; the inauguration of which (5th January in the last-named year) took place under remarkable and trying circumstances, viz., the retreat of the Hungarian army of Kossuth, when closely pursued by the Austrian forces. For two days the platform was one mass of moving troops—infantry, cavalry, and artillery; so that the powers of the structure were severely tried.

The united towns are generally described as Buda-Pesth by the Hungarians; and, jointly, they suffered severely in the last struggle for national independence (April and May, 1849). The citadel at Buda was occupied by the Croats, under General Hentzi; the heights above by Georgey, with 40,000 men; Pesth being filled with Hungarians. Georgey bombarded the citadel, from the heights of Blocksberg; and Hentzi, in retaliation, bombarded Pesth. This went on for hours together. Terrible havoc was done on both sides. In Buda the Palatine's

palaces, and a number of public buildings, were destroyed (the former has since been nearly rebuilt); Pesth was on fire in thirty different places at once, and scarcely a house in the quarter adjoining the river escaped destruction or serious injury. The hotel where we stopped, the "Königin von England," was burned to the ground; but has since been rebuilt. The theatre and casino were unroofed, and nearly destroyed by fire. In every direction we saw the evidence of the fierce struggle of which this place had been the scene; although the damage has been partially repaired.

An old gentleman, whom we met with in the hotel, gave many particulars of incidents which had passed under his own eyes; and said it was indeed a terrible sight. As our residence appeared to excite considerable curiosity and interest in the stragglers about the hotel, I asked this gentleman whether many travellers, more particularly English, came this way. He shook his head, and replied in the negative; "scarcely any English were now seen here, though formerly they used to come." He added that the Austrian Government did not like them to go so far; that they had no objection to admitting them to Vienna, but that applications for passports to visit Hungary would be met with inquiries as to the object of their journey, and perhaps ultimately with refusal. "They do not like the English to come over here, and then go back and tell all they see and hear; but people passing through as you are, are tolerated." Pursuing our conversation, I asked our friend whether there was any news of the movements or policy of Russia in regard to the Turkish question. He shook his head, smiled, and said, "Here we know nothing; absolutely nothing!" As we were talking, a loud and prolonged shout, mingled with the clang of martial music, was heard. On looking out we found that these sounds proceeded from the Hungarian troops, whom we had passed in the steamers and barges earlier in the day, and who thus saluted the ancient capital of their native land. All the way down the river we heard of extensive movements of troops towards the frontiers, along which it appears that a complete cordon is being established.

The boats employed for the *courses accélérées*, or on the express lines of the Danube Navigation Company are large and handsome, with steam-engines of 150-horse power. They are built after the American fashion, with a spacious deck saloon; the sleeping quarters being behind, in what would be the ordinary cabin. We started from Pesth at ten at night, with the advantage of a few hours of moonlight before us, and with the intention of steaming all night. Suddenly, when all the passengers were in their berths and asleep, a sudden crash was heard, which awoke us all. In an instant, when as yet hardly awake, I saw my fellow-passengers rushing up the companion-ladder, in strange disballe, making all sorts of gesticulations, and uttering all sorts of cries. Not considering that there could be anything very serious the matter, I lay where I was, my eyes and ears on the *qui vive*; but I began to alter my opinion, when, in about half a minute afterwards, I saw all the passengers coming down the companion, and begin hastily to dress themselves. I then followed their example, and went on deck, when I found the vessel surrounded on both sides with trees, and her head fairly aground, having cut through the embankment of the river, on which was a road, and her bowsprit overhanging the field beyond. It was now just two o'clock, and there was nothing for it but to remain where we were till the steamers, up and down, arrived, which were expected about ten or eleven o'clock. I was much amused at the phlegmatic coolness with which the affair was treated by those on board—passengers and all. There was no shouting, no grumbling, no manifestation of any kind after the first alarm was over. "Un petit malheur!" said the steward, in reply to inquiries as to what was the matter. The officers of the ship quietly went below to sleep; and I followed their example. At an early hour after dawn a crowd of strange-looking natives from the neighbouring villages came to our assistance, and made a vigorous attempt to dig us out of our difficulty. At about eleven the two steamers appeared, and made an effort to pull us off, but in vain; after breaking a hawser or two, they gave it up as a bad job, and we, with our baggage, were transferred to the *Sophie*, which was going down the river as far as Semlin.

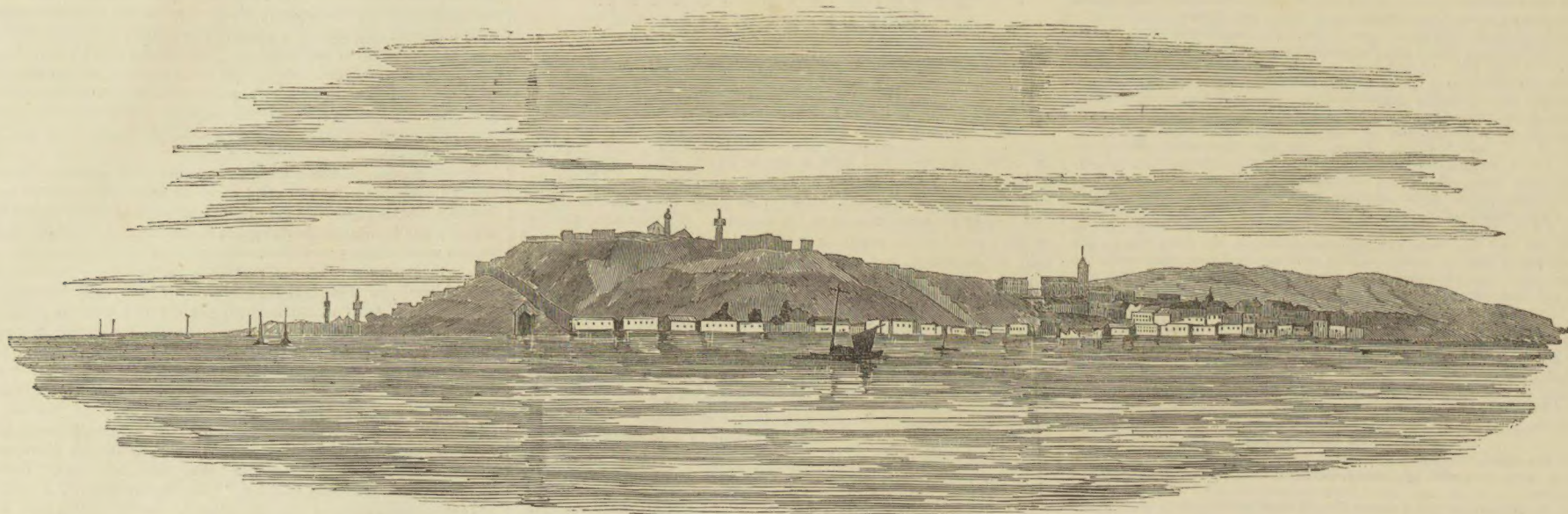
The bank on each side of the river as far as Mohacs (where the steamer stops to take in coal) is one continued flat, for the most part covered with forests, so thick and wild, as almost to be impervious to the foot of man. The water still flows through the woods for miles and miles; and here and there we come upon the trunk of a tree which has been undermined by the influence of the current, and lies prostrate in the flood. The heat is oppressive in the extreme, and in the evening the air is loaded with gnats and mosquitoes. The current is here very rapid; and there is little or no traffic upon it, except that of the barges, which are towed up by the Steam Navigation Company, and which convey corn and pigs up the river—the latter in great numbers, and at the rate of ten shillings a-head to Vienna. Another species of barge we also met occasionally, which is worked (now that the tide has covered the towing-paths) in a most rude and singular manner. The crew is numerous, about twenty or thirty strong; and the mode of proceeding is as follows. The anchor being taken out in a boat, is dropped about a quarter of a mile ahead of the barge; and the cable is then hawled in by the men on board, who run up the deck in line, every man on arriving at the end of his journey at the stern, hastening forward to take his part below the last man. The rapidity of these movements is extraordinary; but, nevertheless, I am informed that they sometimes take two months in the voyage from Semlin to Vienna.

Our fellow-passengers from Pesth downwards were in greater variety of nationality than on the earlier part of our journey from Vienna to Pesth. We had Wallachians, Moldavians, Servians, Greeks, and Russians; and there was much less formality and reserve than we had observed amongst the Austrians in the neighbourhood of the capital. We soon got into conversation with many of them; and were shaken down upon terms of *bonhomie* before the first day's journey was over. Amongst the passengers was a Wallachian noble, returning to his estates at Bucharest. He spoke very complacently of the occupation of the Principality by the Russian troops—a visitation to which they had become accustomed on previous occasions. He stated that in 1828, when the Russian soldiers were there, they behaved very ill, and were the terror of the place; but that on their subsequent visit in 1841 their conduct was very much improved—they were more civilised in their manners, and more regardful of the feelings of the inhabitants. He offered no opinion upon the rights of the matter in a political point of view; and it appeared from his whole discourse that it was very indifferent to him who occupied the place, or under whose rule he was, provided his lands were safe.

As we approach Peterwardein, the aspect on the right bank of the river is slightly diversified by the introduction of a range of low hills, covered with trees and vineyards, and here and there pleasantly dotted with dwellings of a habitable character—the first of the kind we had seen for many hours. Peterwardein is a strong fortress, on a rocky eminence, standing out abruptly into the river, which surrounds it on three sides. It is one of the Free Military Communities, within the frontier intervening between the Austrian and Turkish dominions; and is said to be the spot where Peter the Hermit marshalled the troops engaged in the first Crusade. Opposite, and connected with it by means of a bridge of boats, is the modern town of Neustadt.

After a delay of about an hour at this place, we started on our way, and in six hours arrived at Semlin (Sunday, one p.m.), where the voyage of the *Sophie* terminated. Happily, on arriving here, we received intimation by telegraph that the *Albrecht*, having been unloaded, had been got off the bank upon which the pilot had so ingeniously placed her, and was on her way down the river, to take us on





BELGRADE, FROM SEMLIN.

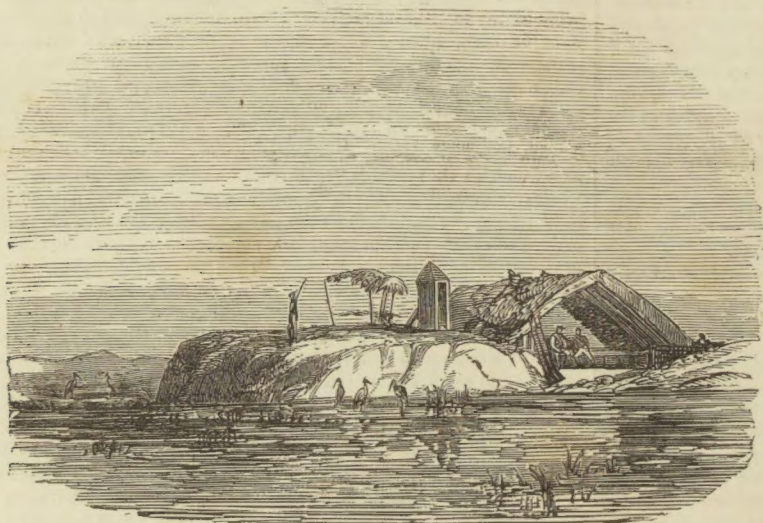
our way to our destination. Accordingly, at the close of a broiling hot day, unrelieved by a breath of air, the *Albrecht* made her appearance at six o'clock; the captain, officers, steward, and crew lifting their hats to salute us as they came alongside, and looking amazingly happy and self-satisfied, as if they really fancied they had accomplished some very clever feat. Two hours having been occupied in re-packing and removing the baggage, we were again on our way, steaming past Belgrade, the capital of Servia—a Turkish town in architecture, although very little occupied by Turks. The aspect of this fine old town, its minarets glistening in the rays of the sun, was very beautiful. The houses are mostly white; and the atmosphere being clear—as only Oriental skies are—they stood out upon the dark background, composed of the hill side, with all the sharpness of outline of a set-scene in a theatre. The sun had now just set; and for some minutes the whole western horizon was of a deep orange colour, which was reflected with almost unsubdued intensity in the lake-like surface of the river. The edges of the latter being fringed by low trees, a broad band of green ran through the

dotted at short intervals with the guard-posts of the troops of the military frontiers. And most wretched places they are—wooden hovels perched upon poles, surrounded with water and bulrushes, and in a sad state of decay. The men, whose uniform consists of a sort of blouse of sackcloth, are so many Alexander Selkirks, condemned to solitude for certain periods of duty. Occasionally we come across a guard-house, in which a dozen or so appear to be congregated.

After leaving Drenkova we enter a narrow rocky defile, and the current of the river becomes marked with rapids and eddies, which demand skilful steering, and the water is very low and dangerous. Here and there on the

class achieved by that great and enterprising people. Along the opposite side is a work, executed under the auspices of Count Széchenyi, which fairly rivals the above in magnitude and utility—a new road, like it, cut in the rock, partly supported by masonry, and running in a line slightly above the level of the stream.

A little below Orsova we come to the frontier of the Turkish province



GUARDHOUSE, GIMVEGO, WALLACHIA.

midst of the more glowing hues of the reflected sun-rays; and still, as the latter became fainter and fainter, the darker hues of the former prevailed more and more, till all was silvery coldness, under the influence of the moon, which had now risen in full power.

All the way from Belgrade to Orsova the left bank of the river is

right bank are seen the vestiges of the Roman road, or *Via Trajana*, which was for the most part cut out of the base of the rock, and in some places consisted of a wooden shelf, partly supported upon the ledge of the rock, and partly upon wooden supports inserted in sockets—one of the last, and one of the greatest of the works of this

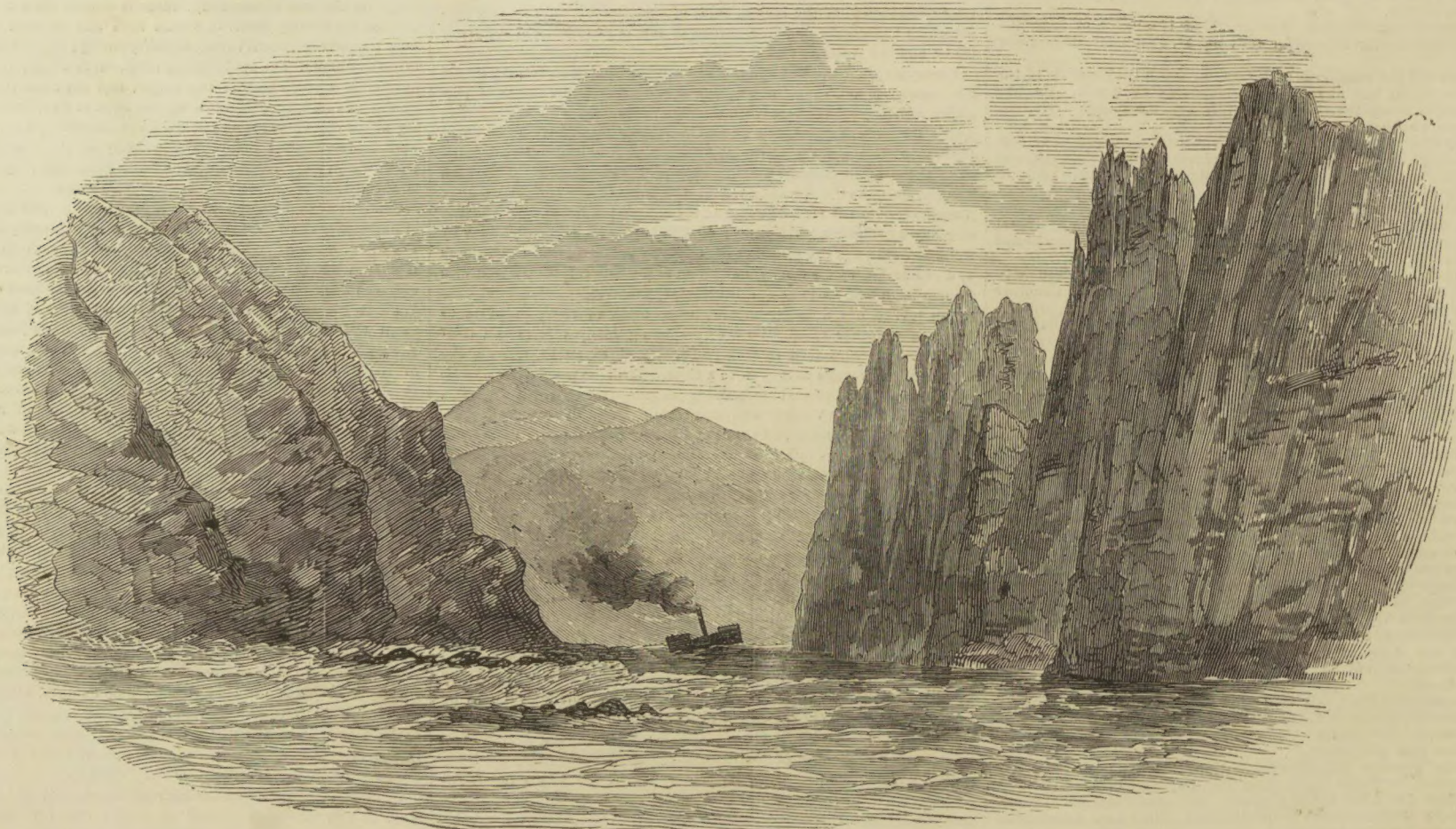


FORT ELIZABETH, SERVIA.

NEW ORSOVA, WALLACHIA.

ON THE DANUBE.

of Wallachia, which occupies the left bank, having Servia still on our right. Here Orsova, the frontier town, is picturesquely situated on the left bank. The position is one which commands the navigation down the river; but it is in turn commanded from the heights above. On the opposite bank is Fort Elizabeth—a fortress of considerable strength

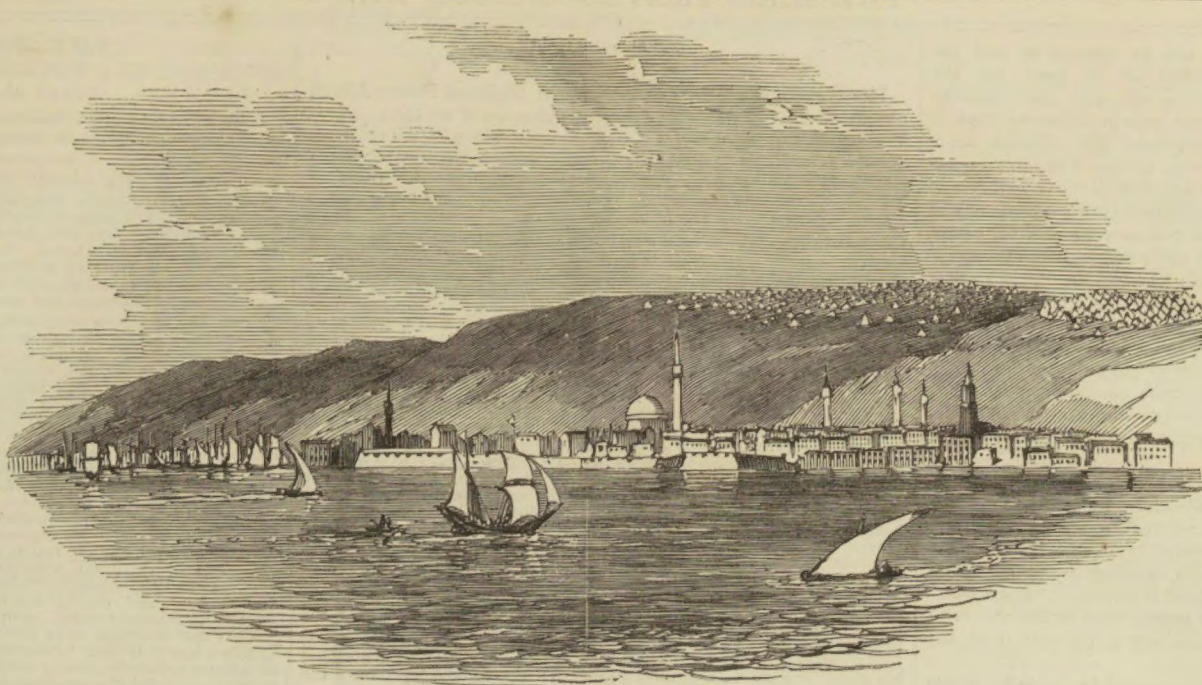


THE IRON GATE, ON THE DANUBE.



Both these places were once military points of importance; but they have of late years been much neglected.

We now came to the "Iron Gate"—a rocky plateau, 1400 yards wide, and 2000 yards long; lying at a short depth beneath the surface; and so styled by the Turks, from the idea that it constitutes an impediment, effectually shutting up the passage of the river. And so, in the days of sailing and towing, it probably did during many months of the year. Now, however, steam applies a key to the difficulty; and, thanks to it, the navigation both up and down is carried on throughout the year. Nevertheless, the appearance of things, under the most favourable circumstances, is, to the inexperienced eye, ominous enough. From a mile distant the whole surface of the narrowed stream is seen to be covered with eddies and broken waves, which boil and interlace, moved by some hidden but potent agency—the wind fitfully rushing up the pass, lashing them into a positive foam. The descent throughout is very precipitous; and, when the water is low, includes two



SILESTRIA.—THE TURKISH CAMP ON THE HEIGHT.

cataracts of eight feet perpendicular fall within a narrow pass between the rocks. A special pilot was engaged at Orsova to steer us through this pass, and he was assisted at the wheel by two men belonging to the crew. In order that he might have a better view of what lay before him, all the passengers sat down; and I watched his eye as he moved the wheel to and fro, and we approached nearer and nearer to the critical point. The changes in our course were frequent and abrupt: now we steamed through eddies right on end, as if to run headlong upon the rocky precipice on the left—in another instant we should have been dashed to pieces against it; when suddenly the helm was brought up, and we passed rapidly along the face of the rock, and within a few yards; then, another sudden turn, and the same danger appeared to threaten on the other side, which, by a similar rapid manœuvre we avoided. Our vessel behaved bravely throughout; although, occasionally, a sort of struggle, or internal movement, showed how she was tried with cross currents. Of course, in as-



THE SULINA MOUTH OF THE DANUBE, FROM THE BLACK SEA.

cending the rapids, the difficulty of the struggle is still greater. Our captain told me that sometimes the vessel comes to a dead stand-still at the foot of the cataract, as if paralysed by the fierce onslaught of the waters; and then, after a minute or two of apparent prostration,

considerable corn station, we come opposite Widdin, a strong fortress of Upper Bulgaria, and the largest Turkish town on the Danube. It was to this place, as your readers may remember, that Kossuth and his brother refugees from Hungary escaped, after being betrayed by the treachery of Georgey; and the noble conduct of Turkey in affording them hospitality and protection at the risk of a war with her bullying neighbour Russia, will ever fill up a bright page in her history. We could discern the Pacha's palace—a low, long building, with a straggling courtyard—situated near the river. A recent writer, in a work entitled "The Frontier Lands of the Christian and the Turk," which I happened to have brought from England with me, gives an unfavourable opinion of the fortifications of Widdin, which were built three centuries ago. He considers that they "would not prove efficient in modern warfare, as the ramparts are low, the curtains so long, as to be out of all proportion, and the bastions apparently weak." I am not able to form an opinion on the subject myself, nor even to judge of the weight to be attached to that of the writer in question; I merely quote it as I happen to find it. But, whatever may be the efficiency of these fortifications in a theoretic point of view, there can be no question that the Turks are working hard to make the best of them. As we passed we saw a regular encampment of light green tents (the colour generally adopted for this purpose in Turkey), which extended to a considerable distance down the river; and there was a great number of soldiers employed in repairing the fortifications, and in throwing up earthworks in all directions. The cannon were planted; and everything seemed ready for active defence at a moment's notice. In the river was a couple of gun-boats, and another small armed vessel.

Similar military preparations we observed to be going forward at

every town and village along the shore. At Rustschuck there was an encampment on the hill covering the town, which, from what we saw of it, to say nothing of what was out of our line of view, must have afforded accommodation for 4000 or 5000 men. At Silestria, a strongly fortified town, an encampment even still larger than the last named. We were only able to judge of the state of affairs on the Turkish bank, by what we could see from the deck of the steamer, as the unjustifiable

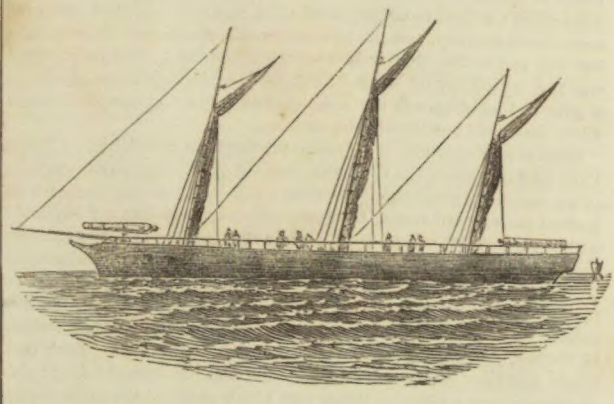


FRONTIER GUARD-HUT, ON THE DANUBE.

gathers up her strength, and slowly, but determinately, makes head through the torrent.

At Skela Gladova we remained nearly three hours. One of the officers of the steam-boat said the delay was owing to the interference of the Russians, who were in authority there, as in all the towns along the Wallachian coast; and who, he said, were very particular about the passports. Perhaps in the opinion of these gentlemen we had been guilty of a grave omission—in not procuring a Russian visa to our passports; but we certainly did not consider it necessary, our Government having received no intimation of the cession of these territories to the Emperor of Russia. The Russian functionaries appear eventually to have come to the same conclusion; for, after a careful inspection of the passports of all on board—which they had no authority to make—the good ship *Albrecht* was permitted to proceed on her voyage.

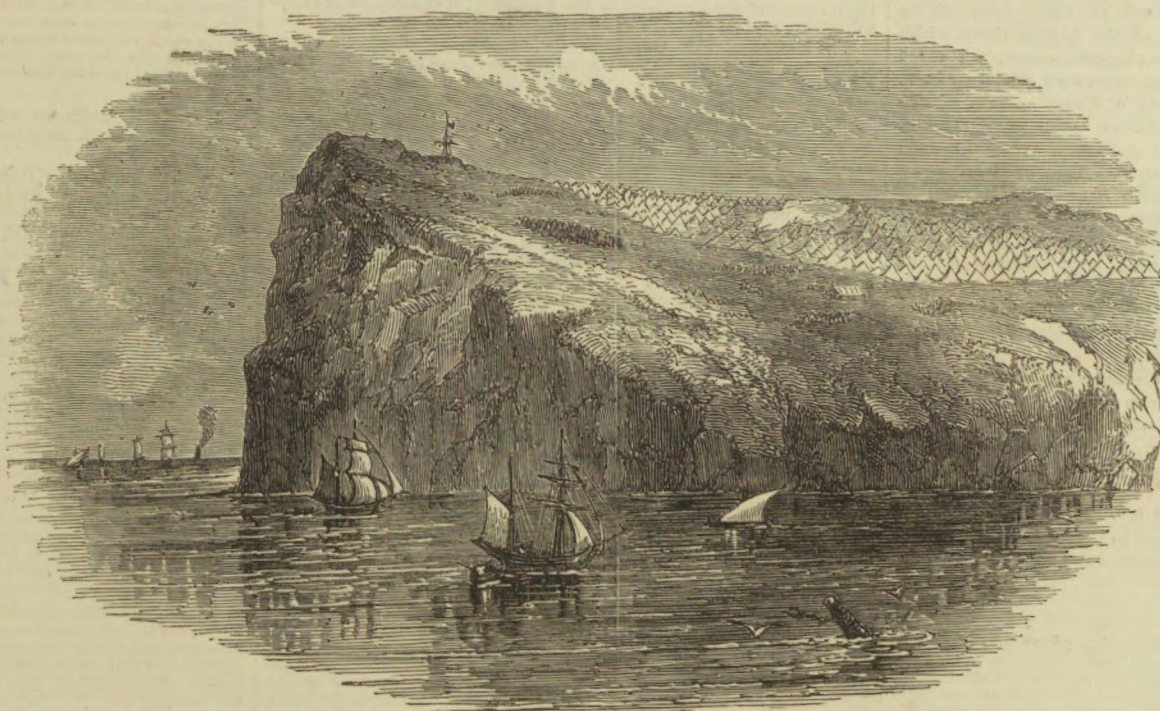
About ten miles below Skela Gladova, the Turkish frontier (that of the province Bulgaria) commences on the right bank; and a little below Kalafat, a miserable village of hovels on the Wallachian coast, but a



RUSSIAN GUN-BOAT.

quarantine regulations amount to a prohibition of intercourse between Turkey Proper on the right, and the Turkish provinces on the left of the river; and our steamer was restricted to touching at the towns on the Wallachian bank. I shall on a future occasion touch further upon the inconvenience and evils entailed upon the population of both banks of the river, and upon the commercial interests of Europe generally, by this extraordinary and unwarrantable assumption of authority on the part of our enlightened ally.

Nothing worthy of remark occurred till we arrived at Galatz, at eleven o'clock at night (Tuesday, the 19th inst.), where we were to quit the steamer of the Danube Navigation Company, and tranship ourselves to the *Ferdinando Primo*—a sea-boat belonging to the Austrian Lloyd's Company, and in which we were to prosecute the remainder of our voyage to Constantinople. This town, as well as Ibrail, situate a few miles above, we were told, was entirely in the hands of the Russian "authorities;" and in the river was a Russian steamer and another small vessel



TURKISH CAMP, CAPE CALABA, ENTRANCE TO THE BAY OF VARNA, BLACK SEA.



of war, and several gun-boats. This was an evidence of cool audacity which certainly rather astonished me at first; but the feeling of astonishment suddenly wore off, and gave way to more serious consideration when, on our passage down the river to the Sulina mouth, we found other steamers and numerous other gun-boats—the latter in all numbering, as was said, thirty—and were told that more were coming. At a point a little higher up the river, also, where there is an island, we understood that the Russians had already commenced building a pontoon bridge, and had actually completed the portion of it reaching from the north bank to the island. We could not but feel that although Russia might have no immediate intention of following up her oft-repeated threats, by commencing active operations against the Turkish territories on the south bank of the Danube, the appearance of such hostile armaments and preparations under the very nose of the Turkish troops at present crowding to the frontier, might perhaps provoke attack from the latter, which would lead to serious complications, and perhaps render general hostilities inevitable. If such a calamity should occur, fearful will be the responsibility of the Christian ruler of Russia.

The Sulina channel of the Danube, which commences below Galatz, is very narrow and very winding; it passes the whole way through a flat morass covered with bulrushes, in which pelicans, and other large birds, and frogs, are the only inhabitants, with the exception, at stated intervals, of the unfortunate sentinels in their log-huts, who are continued all the way down to the mouth of the river. The heat which prevails over this miserable swamp is intense, and in the afternoons the atmosphere swarms with mosquitoes, and is rife with fever and ague.

As we approached the mouth we had some misgivings as to being able to get out; the last accounts stating the depth of the water at the bar to be nine feet three inches English, whereas we drew nine feet six. We found the passage inside the bar crowded with vessels of various build (the number was said to be 300), with their sails flapping in the air to dry, there having been a heavy rain the previous day. To steer through these craft all closely packed together, and some themselves in motion up the river, was a matter of extreme nicety and difficulty, and only accomplished by dint of the most energetic exertions, accompanied by an unusual quantum of shouting and swearing by our pilot. At length we passed them all, and discovered a wild open seaboard strewn with wrecks, the masts and hulls of which were sticking up out of the mud and sand on each side of our course, and denoted the precise locality of the Sulina mouth. Never had I seen or imagined such a spot before: it looked only like the abode of some malignant genius which one has read of in fable.

Fortunately, the water was perfectly calm; or the captain would not have ventured out. As it was, in order, as it were, to put his best foot foremost, he caused all the heavy goods to be removed to the after-part of the deck; there also the passengers crowded together, watching with keen anxiety the little narrow surface of water which lay between the two buoys, which marked the only practicable passage. In another minute we were alongside of them, the head of the ship had got over the bar; but the middle bumped and scraped, and the hind part bumped, and scraped, and stuck. We were fairly aground, as the rolling of the vessel, even in that apparently calm water, plainly indicated. Great consternation now prevailed amongst the passengers. The captain and pilot looked anxious, and shouted lustily, mixing up abundance of oaths upon the *maladetti Russi*, but still did not give up hope of getting off. Guns, chains, heavy merchandise, and passengers, were now all ordered to the prow of the vessel; and there we were all set to work running in a body from side to side, in order to roll the ship, and by degrees loosen the sand in which the rudder was immovably stuck. And right willingly they did as they were bid—Turk, Jew, and infidel, all rushing helter-skelter, shouting, and tumbling over one another, from side to side, stopping for a moment between each wild rush—the Turk, to utter an inaudible prayer—the Greek, to play with his beads—all to breathe, and exchange glances and a word as to the chances of getting off. At length, after half an hour of this exciting entertainment, a shout of triumph from the captain—"Salvatori!"—announced that we were afloat; a shout re-echoed on all sides, and then everyone went to his accustomed quarters, and the good steam-ship *Ferdinando Primo* sped on her way across the blue waters of the Black Sea. And very lucky it was that we got her off when we did, for in a couple of hours afterwards a gale suddenly sprung up, accompanied by a fearful thunderstorm, which lasted till near two in the morning.

Next day (Thursday), at eleven in the forenoon, we arrived at Varna. Cape Galata, outside the Gulf, was occupied with a very large camp, and other troops were continually arriving; this being one of the most important ports, commanding the approaches to the Balkan. This place, it will be recollected, stood a long siege by the Russians in 1828-9, and was only at length delivered up by treaty. Its fortifications were afterwards dismantled by virtue of the conditions of the treaty of Adrianople, but they have since been reconstructed, and upon a much larger scale than before. An English gentleman on board, who had been long a resident in Turkey, gave me some curious particulars of the mode in which these works had been constructed. It appears that the Russians, being then on friendly terms with the Porte, very kindly supplied the plans for the fortifications, and they were drawn out upon the principle of extending the lines over a much wider surface than they had previously been, the effect of which was to bring some of the most important points within range of the heights above, which was not the case before. The Turks became aware, when too late, of this mistake; and my informant states that, some time back, when he was at Varna, he met with a French officer, of the engineers, who was surveying the position on behalf of the Turkish Government, and who thought very ill of them for the reasons stated; and, also, forthat, owing to the great extent of the lines, it would require not less than from 30,000 to 40,000 men to defend them.

Twenty-four hours more (in the course of which we touched at Bourjas) brought us to the mouth of the Bosphorus; and, in two hours afterwards, having passed through the magnificent double panorama presented on both sides of that unrivalled Strait, we landed at Galata, the Frankish quarter of Constantinople. The particulars of all we saw and have learned since our arrival, will form the subject of future communications.

The Russo-Turkish question is at a stand-still; diplomacy is at work, in the hope of bringing the affair to an amicable adjustment, if possible; but, as yet, without result; and I understand that the English and French Ministers have sent to their respective Governments for further instructions, with the view to arriving at a definitive issue.

Meantime, the Ottoman Government is daily weakened and impoverished by her preparations for war, and to a frightful amount. It is said that the cost of the armaments and movements now going forward, is not less than £60,000 a day.

**LAUNCH OF THE "JASON."**—On Saturday afternoon, a vessel, named the *Jason*, belonging to the General Screw Shipping Company, was launched at Blackwall. At three o'clock the vessel was "christened" in the usual manner by Lady Gambier, after which the dogshores were removed, and she glided in magnificent style into the water. The following are the dimensions:—Length between perpendiculars, 281 feet; breadth of tonnage, 43 feet 2 inches; depth in hold, 31 feet 6 inches; keel for tonnage, 255 feet 1 inch. Tonnage, 2530. Two other vessels, of a similar kind, belonging to the same company, are nearly completed, and will be launched in the course of a few weeks. The *Jason* is designed for the Australian trade.

## THE COURT.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the youthful Princes and Princesses of the Royal family, and attended by a numerous suite, left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes before two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, for the Nine Elms station of the London and South-Western Railway, whence the illustrious party travelled by a special train to Gosport, en route for her Majesty's marine residence in the Isle of Wight. The Hon. Francis Scott, M.P., Chairman; Mr. Godson, the Superintendent; and Mr. L. Crombie, Secretary to the Railway Company, were in attendance upon the Royal party. On arriving at the Clarence Victualling Yard, her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the Royal Children and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household, embarked in the *Fairy* Royal yacht, which conveyed them across the Solent, amid the salutes of the fleet assembled at Spithead.

The chief incident of Court life during the week has been the reception by her Majesty of the Grand Duchess Marie, eldest daughter of the Emperor of Russia, at a Court held on Monday, at Buckingham Palace. Her Imperial Highness came in state to the Palace, from the residence of the Russian Embassy, and was attended by his Excellency Baron Brunnow, Mdlle. Wayekoff, and Count Wielhoski. At the same Court, Senor de Castillo y Lanzas, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Mexican Republic, had an audience of the Queen, to deliver his credentials. The Hon. Henry Howard had also an audience of her Majesty, to take leave, on his departure for his diplomatic post at the Court of Brazil. The Hon. Charles Murray had also an audience, to kiss hands, on his appointment to be Minister to the Swiss Confederation. Colonel Shiel had an audience of the Queen, on his return from Persia. Dr. John Forbes, Physician to her Majesty's Household, had an audience, when the Queen was pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood. Dr. James L. Bardsley, of Manchester, had an audience of her Majesty, and received the honour of Knighthood. Her Majesty gave audiences to the Earl of Aberdeen and Earl Granville. After the Council, Sir James Graham and the Marquis of Breadalbane had audiences of her Majesty. In the evening, her Majesty gave a dinner party. The company included his Royal Highness the Crown Prince and her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Wurtemberg, their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Duke of Cambridge, her Royal Highness the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, his Excellency Baron Brunnow, the Marquis and Marchioness of Clanricarde, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount and Viscountess Canning, Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge, Viscount Palmerston, and Viscount Drumlanrig.

On Saturday the Queen and Prince Albert, with their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, left Buckingham Palace, at twenty minutes to ten o'clock, for the camp at Chobham. The Royal party proceeded in four of the Queen's carriages to the Nine Elms station of the South-Western Railway, where a special train was in readiness to convey her Majesty to Staines. Four Royal carriages were in waiting at Staines, and conveyed the Royal party to the Camp, from whence her Majesty returned at half-past five o'clock. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Italian Opera with their presence.

On Thursday the Queen was present at the grand naval review at Spithead.

## THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO DUBLIN.

It is stated that the Queen will leave town for Dublin on the 27th inst. Her Majesty will remain in the Irish metropolis six days, during which, it is understood, a Drawingroom, or Court reception, will be held at the Castle. On leaving Ireland, her Majesty will return direct to Liverpool, traversing the London and North Western Railway to Preston, and thence by the Lancaster and Carlisle, and Caledonian lines, to Edinburgh, en route for the Royal residence in the Highlands.

## THE IMPERIAL RUSSIAN FAMILY.

The Grand Duchess Marie of Russia, her eldest daughter, the Princess Marie, and attended by a numerous suite, arrived in town, at six o'clock on Saturday evening, from Torquay. Her Imperial Highness drove direct from the Paddington railway station to the hotel where her Imperial sister, the Grand Duchess Olga, is sojourning; and, after a long interview, proceeded to Chesham-house, the residence of the Russian Legation, where her Imperial Highness will again take up her abode during her *sejour* in London. On Sunday morning the Imperial Princesses attended Divine service at the Chapel of the Russian Embassy, in Welbeck-street. In the afternoon the Grand Duchesses left town for Windsor, where they viewed the Castle and St. George's Chapel; and afterwards drove to Virginia Water. In the evening the Grand Duchess Marie entertained the Crown Prince and Princess of Wurtemberg at dinner at the Russian Embassy.

On Monday—a festival day of the Imperial family—the Grand Duchesses attended a religious service at the Embassy. After the service, the Crown Prince and Princess of Wurtemberg, the latter attended by the Baroness de Brunnow, proceeded to Grosvenor-house, to pay a visit to the Marchioness of Westminster. The Crown Prince and Princess afterwards drove through the principal thoroughfares of the West-end, and visited several leading establishments. At a quarter to three o'clock, her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie, accompanied by his Excellency Baron Brunnow, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of her household, left the residence of the Russian Embassy in two dress carriages, the servants wearing their state liveries, for Buckingham Palace, to have an audience of her Majesty the Queen.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Augusta Bruce, visited his Royal Highness the Crown Prince, and her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess, of Wurtemberg, on Saturday.

The Duke of Atholl has returned to Dunkeld House, N.B., from town, en route to his Grace's shooting quarters.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Normanby have arrived at the Lake of Como, from Germany.

Viscount and Viscountess Canning contemplate embarking on a cruise in his Lordship's yacht immediately after the prorogation of Parliament.

Lord and Lady Brougham have left Grafton-street for Brougham Hall, Westmoreland.

The marriage of Lord Hobart, eldest son of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, with Miss Carr, daughter of Bishop Carr, of Bombay, was celebrated on the 4th instant, at All Souls' Church, Marylebone, in the presence of a large circle of friends.

Lady Hermione Graham, wife of Captain Graham, eldest son of Sir James Graham, was safely delivered of a daughter, on Friday last, at the residence of the First Lord of the Admiralty, Whitehall. Her Ladyship and the infant are progressing favourably.

The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley, resident domestic chaplain to the Queen, has been suffering for some days from an attack of measles.

**THE EMPEROR AND THE POET.**—The poet Jasmin dined on Sunday last at St. Cloud. In the evening he was asked by the Emperor and the Empress to recite some verses. He improvised, as is his wont, in his native Languedoc patois. When the poet perceived that his august hearers were in a melting mood, he suddenly asked the Emperor for the unconditional pardon of his fellow-townsmen, the ex-questor Baze, a native of Agen. The Emperor paused for a few moments at this ill-timed boldness, and then said, "Jasmin, I grant your request, and if M. Baze should ever intrigue against me, I shall hold you and your poetry responsible."

**SUBMARINE AND EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH COMPANIES' OPENING TO BIRMINGHAM.**—The above companies' land line to Birmingham having been connected with the offices, 30, Cornhill, and No. 104, New-street, the company commenced transmitting despatches on Monday last. On this occasion there were some considerable reductions in the scale of charges—the former amount of 2s. 6d. being reduced to 1s.; the 1s. 3d. additional charge for each ten words above the minimum of twenty having been changed to a tariff of 6d. for each additional ten words or fraction of ten words; and the somewhat gratifying circumstance, that the great link-lines of Europe are now combined in one unbroken chain of communication from the Continent, through London, and northwards as far as Birmingham. The companies' line to Manchester and Liverpool is to be rapidly proceeded with.

**LAUNCH OF THE "PENINSULA."** IRON SCREW STEAMER.—The first of a new line of screw steamers for the Spanish and Portuguese Screw Steam Shipping Company was launched on Saturday at Greenwich. The *Peninsula* is 225 feet in length over all, 190 feet between the perpendiculars, 25 feet breadth of beam, 15 feet in depth of hold; and about 600 tons old measurement; and will be rigged as a three-masted schooner.

**CROWN SUITS.**—The bill introduced by the Attorney-General, for the amendment of the practice in Crown suits in the Court of Exchequer, and for the payment of costs in proceedings, provides that in all informations, actions, &c., not of a criminal nature, instituted by the Crown against a subject, the Crown shall be entitled to costs in the same way as in law proceedings between subject and subject; and, should judgment be given against the Crown, the costs will be recoverable from the Treasury. The Barons of the Exchequer are also to be empowered to make general rules and orders, to assimilate as much as possible the course of practice and procedure in Crown suits to that between subject and subject.

## THE THEATRES.

## ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Spohr's three-act opera, "Jessonda; or, the Rajah's Wife," was originally produced at Cassel, in Germany, under the composer's direction, in 1823. In June, 1840, it was heard at the Prince's Theatre (St. James's), being executed by a German company—Madame Stokel Heinefetter being *Jessonda*; Madame Schumann, *Amazili*; Herr Schaezen, *Nadori*; and Herr Poock, *Tristan d'Acunha*. This performance, with the exception of Herr Poock, was a failure—not only in the principals, but in the choral and orchestral forces. Far different was the rendering of the work last Saturday night, at Covent-garden, where, in presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert, and an auditory—amongst whom were the most celebrated professors and amateurs in London—an Italian version, by Maggioni, of the German text, was presented, for the first time. It was generally admitted, by those connoisseurs who were acquainted with Spohr's "Jessonda" on various German stages, that the present representation, taken in the whole, was the most perfect. Never were the elaborate and difficult instrumental accompaniments played with greater skill and delicacy; and this is of vital importance in such intricate orchestration as that of Spohr. The *mise en scene* was gorgeous, the grouping and dancing admirable, under Mr. Harris's careful and tasteful organisation, and the cast strong, including as it did Madame Bosio as *Jessonda*, Madame Castellan as *Amazili*, Herr Formes, *Dandau* (the high priest); Lucchesi, *Nadori*; Belletti, *Tristan*; and Stigelli and Soldi in the secondary parts.

The libretto is decidedly interesting; and still, with all the advantages just enumerated—with the zealous support of the "native talent party"—with the neutrality of the Italian amateurs—and with the most cordial exhibition of sympathy from the general body of executants, vocal and instrumental—Spohr's "Jessonda" is as much a failure as was his "Faust," and will be shelved with Gounod's "Saffo" and Berlioz's "Benvenuto Cellini," with this difference—that the dissolution has not been hastened, as in the last two instances, by a cabal. It may be asked how it is that "Jessonda," which highly cultivated musicians rave about so rabidly, should have fallen lifeless on the ear of the general public? A brief recapitulation of the leading incidents of the libretto, with the musical pieces, will quickly account for this result. Even at the outset, the characteristic overture—so superbly given by the band under Costa's baton—is a clue to the composer's system. Sombre as the subject of the opera, scored with a local Indian colouring, the animation which operatic preludes must have, in order to carry away the feelings of a large audience. The curtain rises in Goa (the story is taken from the French piece *Lemiere's "Veuve du Malabar"*), in the interior of a temple, in which the High Priests, Bayaderes, and Brahmins, bewail the death of the Rajah, looking forward to the wife's sacrifice to propitiate their idol. This introduction is grand and imposing, and is succeeded by the most dramatic piece in the entire work, a duo between *Nadori* and *Dandau* (tenor and bass) finely sung by Lucchesi and Formes. Next to the duo is the imprecation of the High Priest and Brahmins on the Portuguese troops, who are besieging the city. Then comes the scene of the sisters, in which it is found that *Jessonda* is from Portugal, and has loved a young officer in her native land, prior to her having been sold to the Rajah. Here the want of variety in Spohr's ideas begins already to be felt; but expectation is again raised by the masterly pantomimic music accompanying the movements of the Bayaderes, who announce by the tearing of a veil, the extinguishing of torches, &c., the approaching fate of the widow. *Nadori*, the young Brahmin, then arrives as the messenger of death; but struck with the beauty of *Amazili*, he resolves to save *Jessonda*. A tedious terzetto terminates the first act. Save the duo before cited, the curtain dropped without an emotion. Spectacle fixes the attention at the opening of the second act—the warlike games of the troops in the Portuguese camp, to very dull music, precede the lament of the General *Tristan*. This air won an encore, and was most expressively sung by Belletti. The sisters come to the camp, a truce having been agreed to, and twine a wreath in a soothing duet. *Nadori* has subsequently a scena, descriptive of his resolve to rescue *Jessonda* for the sake of his lady love, who reciprocates his suit in a solo, sweetly warbled by Castellan. The finale of the second act ensues. *Tristan* recognises *Jessonda*, as his affianced, and is about to carry her off, but the High Priest arrives in time to remind her that he has pledged his word to allow the Indian rites to be solemnized without molestation. After a struggle, *Tristan* determines to keep faith with his foes, and yields *Jessonda*. This truly dramatic scene, so suggestive to a composer of dramatic genius, is feebly depicted by Spohr's mannerisms and frigid and monotonous style. He never rises with the situation, and has missed a glorious opportunity for marked contrast between the Indian troops and the Portuguese forces. In the last act, there is the despair of *Tristan* and *Nadori*, but it is all in the same strain: just as the grief of *Jessonda*, so is that of *Tristan*. There is no individuality of character attempted in the notation. In the last scene, where the sacrifice of *Jessonda* is preparing, there is precisely the same mode of treatment, as that adopted in the opening scene. There is no relief—no working for a climax—no chance to obtain a sensation. A dead calm is over the senses throughout—one admires the vast ability of the musical mechanist; but when *Jessonda* is eventually rescued by *Tristan* owing to *Nadori* having communicated to the General that the Brahmins were the first to break the truce, there is no overwhelming excitement at the finale. The Spohr-isms throughout the opera are indeed unmistakable. His melodies based on Mozartian ideas are marred by excessive modulation. Operatic music has been thus justly described by a writer in noticing Spohr's "Faust" some years since—"The action of the scene occupies the attention of the audience, and the music carries the feeling shown there deeper into their souls; therefore, it is no mere necessary for them to observe and understand the details of a composition, than it is for a person who is admiring a fine engraving to notice all the arrangements of the lines in it; his gratification arises from the effect of the whole—the union of the drawing with the lights and shadows; the instant he gives his attention to the lines the illusion is destroyed, and much of his pleasure vanishes." Whatever may be the ultimate destination of Spohr's lyric productions in this country, it is known that the distinguished composer—for such he unquestionably is—has outlived their fame in his own fatherland. Mathematical music will in truth not stir the soul, however the ingenuity of the composer may be admired; the masses must be moved by effect. It was right policy in the directors to try "Jessonda;" they are only faithful to the principles on which the Royal Italian Opera was founded, to present the lyric drama of all masters, without distinction of country. It is by detail of various schools that the public taste will be really improved.

## ADELPHI.

Cabbie is not only a jest, and a jest-making animal himself, but the cause of much jesting, like Falstaff, in others. At this theatre, they have put him into a play, entitled, "What! no Cab?" the incidents of which occur on the fatal Wednesday, the 27th ult., during the shower. The subject is an elopement, the lady being compelled to accept the accommodation of a wheelbarrow, for herself and score of parcels. The writer of the farce appears to have been in favour of the strike, and represents the public as the exclusive losers by the transaction. It had been well if he had held the balance more fairly; however, the piece is a lively sketch enough, and not the less amusing for hitting the public rather than a class.

MR. ALBERT SMITH will, on Monday next, give the 500th representation of his Ascent of Mont Blanc, at the Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly.

HENRY RUSSELL—This well known and favourite vocalist has, we understand, engaged the Lyceum Theatre for one month. We have not heard whether a new or his old entertainment is to be produced; but there is no doubt that, new or old, he will make it popular.

The Emperor of Austria has just made a magnificent donation to the management of the opera at Vienna, viz. 200,000 florins (about £20,720). The receipts of the theatre generally amounting to about 300,000 florins, the lucky *impresario* will have in hand about £18,000—a large sum, but which, considering the absurdly enormous salaries which artists receive at present, will ere long probably be dispersed all over Europe, borne away by the stars of the operatic firmament.

The new opera, by the Duke Ernest of Saxe-Coburg, named "Toni," has just been put in rehearsal at the Grand Opera at Berlin. The repetitions of the same work are going actively on at the theatres of Hanover and Munich. It is to be played for the first time at Hanover on the 15th inst, and at Munich on the 21st.

**FOREIGN WINE IN BOND.**—A firm being desirous of blending a parcel of foreign wines in bond for the purpose of being bottled, and then exported to foreign parts, it was found on application being made to the Revenue authorities for that purpose, that there would be no objection to the desired operation being effected, on condition that the blended article should subsequently be exported as foreign mixed wine.

**COALS FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.**—The certainty of the Falklands becoming an important station for British and Australian, American and Californian steamers rounding the Horn, have caused great exertions to send out a timely supply of coal—a difficult matter, considering the unexampled demand for that article from so many other quarters, and the high rates of freight. There are now loading at Cardiff the *Sea Bird* and the *Chester*, and in London the *Ca siterides*, with coals direct for the Falklands, intending to return thence with guano. With a supply of coal at the Falklands the necessity of vessels touching at the Brazilian harbours will be obviated, and the risk of yellow fever, the port charges, cost of repairs, provisions, and every item of refit, are infinitely higher in these than at the Falkland Islands.



## EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The committee of the House of Lords has passed the London and North-Western Railway Company's bill for a line from Crewe to Shrewsbury.

Last week a serious accident occurred by the fall of one of the masons from the scaffolding of the clock-tower of the New Houses of Parliament, by which the poor fellow had both his legs broken.

Letters from Ferrara announce that the maize crop has entirely failed in those parts this year.

Captain Harness, R.E., has been appointed Commissioner of Public Works in Ireland, in the room of Mr. W. T. Mulvany.

The number of applications for patents for new inventions during the present year in France amounts to 2352.

O'Donoghue, one of the Irish convicts, has arrived at New York, having escaped from Australia, via California. He has published an account of his escape in the New York papers.

The last accounts from Riga state that the cholera was on the increase there. The total number of cases was 740, and the deaths were 267. At Copenhagen, on the 29th ult., the total number of deaths was 2647.

Dr. Cullen has issued an order for the assemblage of a Provincial Synod at Thurles, on the 1st of Sept. next, and following days.

The Keyham Works, near Plymouth, will be formally opened on the 1st October. The furniture for the different offices is to be supplied from the store in the docks and.

The Oregon papers contain rumours of the discovery of rich and extensive gold mines on the Santiam river, some fifty miles from Salem, which are reported to pay from ten dollars to fifty dollars per day to the man.

The Queen has appointed the Earl of Wemyss and March Lord-Lieutenant and Sheriff-principal of the county of Peebles.

The Great Exhibition is making the tour of the world. The Bavarian Government has resolved on the erection of an edifice on the model of the Hyde-park Palace, for the Zollverein Exhibition, at the cost of 300,000 florins.

Reports from all parts of Ireland give a most cheerful account of the harvest prospects. In Tipperary and some other counties, some progress has already been made in reaping.

A number of cases containing materials for the assay of gold have arrived by a vessel from Holland. These materials are intended to be shipped immediately to Australia, by a vessel about to leave for that all-attractive colony.

An epidemic disease, originating from Lombardy, has broken out among the cattle in Sicily. Besides this, the small-pox has made its appearance among sheep. The papers recommend inoculation of the cow-pox as the surest remedy.

The King of Bavaria has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown of Bavaria on Baron A. von Humboldt.

The Lord Bishop of Limerick, the Right Hon. John Hatchell, and Dr. Longfield are the new Commissioners of National Education for Ireland.

It is stated that an arrangement has been entered into between Prussia and Russia for a regular service of steamers between Cronstadt and Stettin.

Mr. Edward Watkins Edwards is appointed an official assignee in the Court of Bankruptcy, in the place of his father, who resigns from protracted ill health.

The Exhibition of Industry at Moscow was closed on the 2nd inst. There were 568 exhibitors. The visitors were very numerous; in one day they amounted to 35,000.

As Mr. Peacock, the late holder of the champion sculls of the Thames, was not in a condition to row, there was no race on Wednesday for the championship—Mr. James Payne becoming the holder.

Alexandre Dumas, writing to a Paris journal, states that between the 11th December, 1851, and the 11th December, 1852, he wrote as many as forty volumes, which "comprise something like 120,000 lines, or 8,000,000 letters. Such has been my year's work."

A second report from the Select Committee on Coal Mines, containing the evidence of Mr. Jude, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Swallow, Mr. Gray, Mr. Tetlow, and Mr. Wood, was published on Monday.

The Emperor of France has conferred a pension of 2400 fr. on M. Baucher, the well-known professor of horsemanship, as a recompense for the services rendered by him in the cavalry school at Saumur.

The *Lady Eglinton* screw-steamer, which arrived from Quebec in eleven days, is being fitted with Sir Thomas Mitchell's Boomerang screw propeller, and will start from Liverpool for Quebec on the 18th inst.

Queen Christina of Spain and her suite, arrived at Havre on Saturday week. Her Majesty took up her residence at Frascati's, where apartments had been prepared. In the evening the band of the 20th Regiment gave her a serenade.

On Saturday last, a party of miners belonging to Kilmarnock, left for London, whence they are to sail for Vancouver's Island, their object being to follow the coal trade in that place.

The Countess Blanche Teleky, who was lately condemned by the court-martial of Pesth to ten years' detention in a fortress, arrived a few days since at Vienna, on her way to her place of imprisonment.

A public dinner was given to the Earl of Zetland by his tenants, feuars, and others, in the new hall, Grangemouth, on Friday last. Mr. Forbes, of Calender, and several other Scotch members of Parliament, were present.

The King of Prussia has graciously granted the great gold medal for science to M. Leone Levi, for his work on the Commercial Law of the World.

Mr. Frederick Beamish, formerly member for Cork, has come forward in the Liberal interest as candidate for that city.

The first publication of the banns of marriage of the Duke de Brabant with the Archduchess Maria Henrietta took place at Brussels on Sunday. The Burgomaster read it at the principal door of the Hôtel de Ville, where it was afterwards posted up.

Baron Richards has left Ireland for a visit to the Pyrenees. The laborious duties in the Encumbered Estates Court have well-nigh made shipwreck of the learned Baron's constitution.

On Sunday last, a child, two years and a half old, fell from a fifth floor window on a heap of sand lying in the Rue St. Antoine. It immediately got up and ran away. As a measure of precaution, the child was taken to the hospital to be examined, when it was found that it had received no injury.

The recognizances to the election petition against the members lately returned for Liverpool, are declared to be unobjectionable. The petition will not be proceeded with this session.

The first ascent of Mont Blanc this season was made on the 21st July, by Mr. Salmond and Mr. Arthur Walsam, of the Royal Artillery. Mr. Salmond made an unsuccessful attempt two years ago.

Quite a sensation was created on Monday at Galignani's reading-room in Paris, by the appearance there of Mr. Brahman. Instead of an old decrepit man, there was a hearty gentleman, apparently not more than sixty, with a sparkling eye and dark whiskers.

Dr. Tinsley, the English practitioner in Cuba, has discovered that vaccine virus, after passing through a negro's system, is valueless for the white race.

Four hundred and fifty pound expenses have been granted by the court to the officer who lately expensed the absconding bankrupt, Spriggs. He had escaped to Australia, but was brought back, together with some considerable property, which has been rendered available to his creditors.

The High Sheriff has fixed Monday next, the 15th inst., at Lichfield, for the nomination for the South Staffordshire election. The Hon. E. R. Littleton will, it is understood, be returned without opposition.

The Minister of the Interior of France has sent new instructions to the Prefects of Departments, ordering that no persons shall be allowed to sell almanacks, except licensed booksellers.

Last week the inhabitants of Kingston brought an action against the Duke of Cambridge, for stopping up a road across Coombe Warren, long used not only as a path, but as a road to a farm, and to the warden itself for picnic parties. The jury found that there was no right of carriage-way, but a right of foot-way.

The Sacred Congregation of the Index, at Rome, has issued a new list of prohibited books. One of the first named is Bunsen's "Hippolytus and his Age; or, the Doctrine of the Church of Rome under Commodus and Alexander Severus."

A man named Calderbank by some accident got into a grave in St. Peter's Churchyard, on Thursday week, at Preston, when the earth fell in, and he was dug out some hours after quite dead.

Prince Michael Obrenowitch was married at Vienna, on the 1st inst., to the Countess Julia Hunyady. The bridegroom wore the Serbian costume, and a sabre of honour enriched with diamonds worth 80,000 florins. The dress of the bride cost 160,000 florins.

On Saturday last the directors of the Citizen Steam-boat Company gave their eighth annual entertainment to the men and boys in their employment, to the number of about 300, in the Company's dry dock at Battersea.

A boat with five young men, while going to the *Archer* war steamer, in the Tay, was upset, and two of them (Dempster and Buchanan) were drowned.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. R. W.—Too simple.  
B. W. F.—No 2 is an easy mate in three moves.  
C. M. Reading.—You are quite right. In future address simply to the Editor.  
RICHMOND.—There is a flaw, as you suggest; your last problem admits of two solutions.  
A. K., University College.—The corrected problem is not, but very easy; it is a common-place. You can do better things. If we mistake not, than these.  
B. A. X.—It shall be given, perhaps in our next.  
W. J., Upper Clapton.—It is much too weak for publication.  
H. E. K.—It shall be reported on next week.  
W. B. F.—They shall be examined.

\* \* \* We beg to acknowledge the receipt of another selection of beautiful games from Prince D. and Prince S., Orousoff, and Messrs. Petroff, Jaenisch, Schumoff, &c.

## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 494.

WHITE. BLACK.  
1. Kt to K 2nd (ch) K to Q 3rd (best)  
2. B to K B 6th B to K 5th (best)  
3. Kt to Q 4th B to B 3rd  
4. P to K 4th B takes P, or (a)  
5. Kt to K B 5th (ch) B takes Kt  
6. Kt to K 7th—Mate.

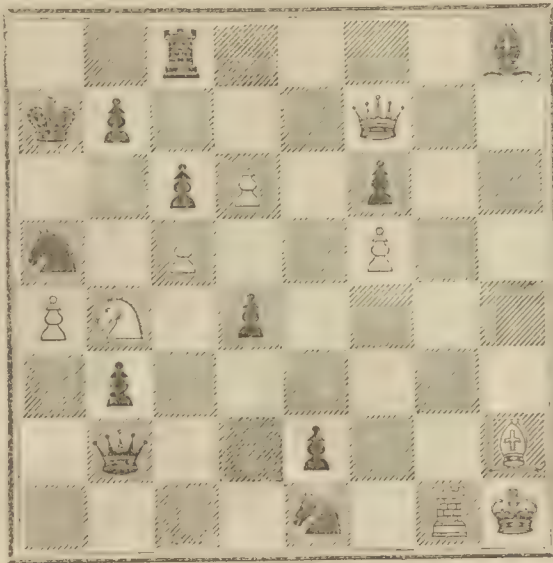
(a) 4. Kt to K 7th (ch)  
5. Kt takes P—Mate

\* \* \* The above is the author's solution; but he has overlooked an obvious mate in three moves.

## PROBLEM No. 497.

By A. F., of Florence.

## BLACK.



## WHITE.

White, playing first, to mate in seven moves.

## CHESS IN THE PROVINCES.

Game of a Match still pending between Messrs. BRIEN and FORSHALL, of Oxford.

(Ray Lopez' Knight's Game.)

WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	26. Q to K Kt 3rd	P to Q R 5th (e)
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to B 3rd	27. K to K B 5th	P takes P
3. B to Q Kt 5th	Kt to K B 3rd	28. P takes P	P to K R 5th
4. P to Q 3rd (a)	P to Q 3rd	29. R takes K P	P takes Q (f)
5. B to K 3rd	B to K 2nd	30. R takes Q (ch)	K to B 3rd (g)
6. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Castles	31. R takes Q B P	R to K R sq
7. R takes Kt	P takes B	32. R takes P (ch)	K to his Kt 4th
8. Q Kt to K 2nd	Kt takes B	33. R to Q R 6th (h)	K to his Kt 7th
9. P to K R 3rd	Kt takes B	34. R to Q R sq	R takes P (ch)
10. P takes Kt	P takes B	35. K to R 3rd	R to Q 7th
11. P takes P	R takes P	36. P to Q B 4th	R takes P
12. P to K R 4th (b)	R to K R 4th	37. P to Q B 5th	R takes K P
13. K to Q 2nd	Q B to K Kt 5th	38. R to Q sq	P to K Kt 7th
14. Q to K B sq	K B takes K (c)	39. K to Q Kt 4th	K to his B 5th
15. Kt takes K B	K R takes Kt	40. P to Q B 6th	K to his B 6th
16. Q to K B 2nd	R takes R	41. P to Q B 7th	R to K sq
17. R takes R	B takes Kt	42. K to Q B 5th	K to B 7th (i)
18. Q takes B	Q to K Kt 4th	43. R to Q 2nd (ch)	K to Kt 6th
19. R to K B sq	P to Q 4th	44. R to Q sq	P to Q 5th
20. Q to K B 3rd	Q to K 2nd	45. P to Q Kt 4th	K to his K 7th
21. Q to K Kt 4th (d)	Q R to Q Kt sq	46. P to Q Kt 5th	P to Q 6th
22. K to Q B sq	P to Q R 4th	47. K to Q B 4th	P "Queens"
23. P to Q Kt 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd	48. R takes Q	K takes R
24. K to Q Kt 2nd	K to K Kt 2nd	49. K takes P	
25. P to Q B 2nd	P to K R 4th		

And White wins.

(a) This is too timorous and defensive a way of playing an attacking opening.  
(b) White has already the worst position, and his twelfth move does not seem calculated to relieve him from his difficulties.  
(c) With so fine a position Black should have played for something more than this petty pawn.  
(d) White makes some good moves at this point.  
(e) This, like many of Black's preceding moves, is far from judicious.  
(f) Q to K B 3rd was perhaps stronger. The move made is, notwithstanding, quite good enough to draw the game.  
(g) This is a grave error. Black should play K to R 3rd, whereupon White must move R to K B 7th, or he will lose the game.  
(h) White, in his turn, plays very weakly here.  
(i) Even now, if Black had not made up his mind to win the game, he could draw it without difficulty.

## THE CHINESE BIBLE IN ENGLISH LETTERS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—I observe with much pleasure, in your article on Christianity in China, a specimen of the mode by which the language of the Chinese may be written and printed in English or Roman letters. As this subject has engaged my attention for some years, I take the liberty of sending you a few remarks, which may facilitate the application of the alphabetic system to the whole of the Scriptures in Chinese.

Believing that the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is as willing as it is able to give currency to any proposal which concerns the happiness of great multitudes of mankind, permit me, briefly and plainly, to state the expediency and practicability of publishing a correct edition of the Chinese Bible in Roman letters. This proposal is perhaps entitled to especial attention, when so large a portion of the Chinese population has declared itself desirous of adopting the Bible as its religious code, and Christianity instead of Paganism.

The practicability of applying our Roman or English alphabet to the Chinese language is notorious, as it has been largely adopted by the principal grammarians and lexicographers who have discussed the subject; and I particularly appeal to the authority of Dr. Marshman, in his incomparable "Chinese Syntax," and to Dr. Morrison, in his Chinese Grammar, Dictionary, and other works.

I may also state that the late Samuel Kidd, who was the first Professor of Chinese at the University College of London, was so convinced, by his residence in China, of the importance and feasibility of the plan proposed, that he authorised me to lay before the Bible Society his desire to execute this arduous task himself. And there is great reason to regret that his generous offer was not, at the time, accepted, as his scheme of alphabetic representation was very exact, and might have been applied to the various Chinese dialects with critical precision. In fact, there is not much greater difficulty in representing Chinese by Roman letters than Persian or Sanscrit; for (though it may not be universally known) the Chinese possess, and sometimes use, an alphabet very similar to the Sanscrit or Zendic, consisting (according to Marshman) of twenty-four distinct initial powers, and thirty-eight final powers, which enable them to express their colloquial sounds, though very awkwardly. And as our Chinese grammars accurately define these initial and final phonetics by Roman letters, we have merely to insert the requisite intermediate vowels and tonic accents to distinguish about 3884 words, which (according to Marshman) form the oral language of the Chinese Empire.

The adoption of the Roman alphabet system to represent sounds is of especial consequence in regard to Chinese, as it would save both natives and foreigners from the grievous trouble of acquiring and retaining the elaborate scheme of picturesque or symbolic characters, which strives to represent more than itself the ingenuity of the Chinese symbolism, as the nearest approach to a universal character, which Bishop Wilkins and others have endeavoured to realise. But surely its inconvenience is much greater than its utility. The life of man is too short, and should be too earnest to be consumed in ringing innumerable changes on 214 general

symbols or formative elements, multiplied into 3667 specific symbols or primitive signs, multiplied into 4,3496, the number of combinatory symbols, according to the Imperial Dictionary of the Chinese.

Such being the case, I plead that an edition of the Bible, or New Testament, should be printed in Chinese by the Bible Society, or some other agency, for the purpose of promoting the spread of Christianity and civilisation in that vast empire, which comprises one third of the human race. Such a work, especially if it contained an interlinear verbal Latin version, would greatly facilitate the acquirement of the Chinese by Europeans, and the acquirement of European languages by the Chinese. It would bridge over the philological gulf which now yawns between the Sinitic and other languages of the earth; and, by simplifying the methods of writing and printing, &c., increase literary and commercial correspondence among remote nations.

I must apologise for intruding so far on your attention; but, surely, the application of the European alphabet to Chinese and several other Asiatic languages, may be adopted with advantage. Such a universal medium of international literature should go hand in hand with time-hallowed systems of symbolism, and serve to elucidate and improve, rather than to mutilate or destroy them.

The present crisis of Eastern politics seems to afford a providential opportunity, as propitious as it is unexpected, for extending Christianity in China and Thibet, an opportunity which Britain may turn to the most salutary account, by acting as a Christian mediator rather than a hostile partisan, and insisting on conditions of a beneficial and philanthropic order, if she be called on by the contending factions to interfere in their disputes. Let us indulge the pleasing hope that if we so act, the conversion of China to Christianity—the grandest act which missionary heroism can accomplish—is not far distant. Perhaps the consummation so devoutly to be wished may be the fulfilment of those words of Isaiah, respecting the final triumphs of the church, which have so long perplexed the critics, "Behold, these shall come from afar, and these from the north and the west, and these from the lands of *Shim*."

I remain, sir, your obedient servant.

Clifton.

FRANCIS BARHAM.

## JUBILEE OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—THE CARNARVON AUXILIARY.

SOME time since the Auxiliary Bible Societies in Northern Wales having determined to commemorate the Jubilee of their parent institution by a public meeting, to be held within the precincts of the Castle, in Carnarvon. Wednesday (last week), was the day fixed by the Local Committee for the interesting observance; for which purpose the area of the Castle, near the Eagle Tower, and its entrance by the postern gate, were fitted up by Mr. Lloyd, architect, in a mode similar to that adopted at the Temperance Festival, in 1851. The services of some of the principal local chorists were retained. The day was sunny, and at an early hour the attendance gave promise of a strong meeting. The number present at one time could scarcely be less than 7000, and was seldom under 5000.

Amongst those gentlemen who sat on the platform were the Rev. T. Thomas, M.A., Vicar of Carnarvon; Rev. H. Stowell, Hon. Canon of Chester; Rev. Thomas Phillips, Deputation from the Parent Society; Rev. W. Jones, Vicar of Nevin; Rev. H. G. Edwards, Curate of Carnarvon; Rev. D. L. Williams, ditto ditto; Rev. E. O. Hughes, Rector of Llandysilio; Rev. M. Hughes, St. Ann's, Liverpool; Rev. W. Davies, Liverpool; Rev. T. Aubrey, Wesleyan Minister, Bangor; Rev. J. Phillips, Calvinistic Minister, Bangor; Rev. W. Ambrose, Independent Minister, Port Madoc; Rev. T. B. Herbert, Llanedwin; Rev. E. Owen, Rev. J. Morgan, Rev. J. Davies, Rev. Robert Jones, Rev. W. Griffith, Holyhead; Major O. E. Nanney, R. Williams, Esq., Mayor of Carnarvon. A great number of the most influential families were present in the contiguous gallery—to the right of the chairman.

Shortly after ten o'clock, on the motion of the Rev. D. Roberts, Independent Minister, Pendref, the Rev. T. Thomas, M.A., Vicar of the parish, was called upon to take the chair in the absence of W. B. Hughes, Esq., member for the borough, who was appointed to preside, and who shortly afterwards arrived. A hymn was then sung in Welsh.

The Rev. Chairman, having read an impressive and appropriate portion of the Sacred Volume, addressed the meeting in terms declaratory of the position in which he sat as temporary occupant of the chair. In conclusion he stated that the Hon. Colonel Douglas Pennant could not attend the meeting; but his heart was with them, and he had sent a cheque of £20 for their acceptance (Cheers).

Mr. W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., now arrived, and having briefly addressed the auditory, the Report, in English and Welsh, was read by the local secretary, Mr. Thomas. The sum collected within the district during the year was £330 13s 5d.; showing an excess over the receipts of the preceding year of £21 9s 11d.

Mr. Thomas Turner moved the adoption of the Report; and the resolution was seconded by the Rev. W. Jones, of Nevin, in an eloquent address. A hymn was then sung by the leaders of the several local choirs.

The Rev. Thomas Phillips then moved—

That this meeting welcome the Society's year of jubilee, halting it as a fitting occasion for commemorating the Divine goodness, so abundantly vouchsafed to the society, in its origin, early history, and subsequent progress; for bearing a renewed public testimony to the Divine character and claims of the Bible, and to the right of every individual of the human family to possess and read the same; and for promoting, by new and vigorous efforts, the widest possible circulation of the Scriptures both at home and abroad.

The Rev. gentleman then addressed the assembly, and in the course of his speech stated "that it was the desire of the Committee of the Parent Society to give this year to the Principality a double benefit in the form of a Jubilee gift, a cheap, in fact a shilling duaglot Testament—one by which they could at a glance read the Word either in Welsh or in English (Cheers). Whatever the price might in future be, it would for that year be one shilling only, so as to bring it within the reach of servants, schools, cottagers, and the very poor, as a remembrance of the great year of Jubilee." In conclusion, the Rev. gentleman drew an impressive picture of the Jubilee. "What," he asked, "did he see around him within the Castle walls? A sea of sympathising faces. What had he just seen beyond those walls? The streets deserted, the shops closed—all business, so far as possible, suspended; and all in honour to the great cause of Bible distribution and grateful jubilee. Carnarvon ever stood high in his estimation, but never higher than now. Thanks to the tradesmen who signed that requisition; and thanks to the Mayor, who so considerably accorded with its commendatory suggestion. They had given honour where honour was due. They had postponed ordinary business in order to join in the jubilee of souls, thankful for the distribution of the bread of life amongst the souls of the hungry and spiritually destitute; and he rejoiced to see them thus engaged within those proud and gigantic turrets which once rung with the clang of arms and the noise of revelry; but which now echoed to the hymn of praise, the song of triumph, in loud heart-stirring, soul stirring strains of jubilee to the God of the Bible, in grateful recognition of his goodness and mercy in allowing them the privilege of aiding in His own mighty work" (Deafening cheers).

The Rev. William Davies, of Liverpool, seconded the resolution, in Welsh. He referred to the relative connection in which the Bible Society and the Principality stood. It might be said that to Wales the institution owed its origin; and, after its foundation, it was indebted to this country for more efficient support, according to the number of inhabitants, than was afforded by any other part of the world. Take, for instance, the year 1851, when the metropolis of England, whose population is more than double that of the Principality, contributed the sum of £2000. Yorkshire, the West Riding of which alone possesses a larger number of inhabitants than the whole of Wales, gave £2300. But poor Wales! how much did she at the same time subscribe to the funds? Why, no less than £3500 (Great cheering). In return for these efforts, the society had done much for Wales. Look at the multiplication of the Sacred Volume, its circulation throughout the length and breadth of the land, effects which have followed in the footsteps of the society. A memorable year for Wales was that in which Dr. Morgan pre-ented his translation of the Bible. But, from that time to the year 1851, when the Bible Society was established, a period of nearly 200 years, notwithstanding the strenuous and praiseworthy efforts of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the circulation of the Scriptures did not exceed 120,000, including every edition printed. But in the forty-nine years, since the establishment of the Bible Society, no fewer than 80,000 Bibles and 600,000 Testaments had been circulated in Wales. They owed a great debt of gratitude as a nation to the Bible Society for its instrumentality in preserving the Welsh language from oblivion or corruption. Upon this point the Rev. gentleman enlarged, giving expression to his warmest feelings for his country, its people, and its language; and concluded by some observations on the influence of the Scriptures over the morals of the people.

The resolution having been carried, the following hymn was sung:—

Ddylunwyr Crist! deffrowch, deffrowch!  
I anfon yr Efyngyl ddech;  
Rhodwch, rhodwch o'ch da, a chodwch gri—  
"O daeth, O daeth y Jubil!"

The meeting then adjourned to two o'clock.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, the Rev. T. Thomas, M.A., Vicar of





CELEBRATION OF THE 79TH BIRTHDAY OF THE RIGHT HON. LORD KENYON, AT HANMER, FLINTSHIRE.

Carnarvon, re-opened the proceedings by directing the choirs to sing a hymn appropriate to the occasion, and by reading a portion of the Sacred Volume.

The Chairman, Mr. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., having resumed his seat, came forward and called upon the Rev. Owen Jones, of Manchester; who moved a resolution in approbation of the Jubilee measures and plans.

The Rev. Hugh Stowell, who was received with loud cheers, seconded the resolution in an eloquent address, characterising this magnificent meeting as worthy the first place in the annals of the British and Foreign Bible Society. "It should never be forgotten," said the rev. speaker, "that Wales was the mother of the Bible Society, and that Charles of Bala, under God, was its earthly parent (cheers). There is not a gem in the diadem of the Principality that shines with a radiance and a lustre like this. If I were asked what is the Prince of Wales, the Prince Society of the Principality, I should say, the British and Foreign Bible Society, in the cause of which you have mustered in such mighty strength to-day." The resolution having been

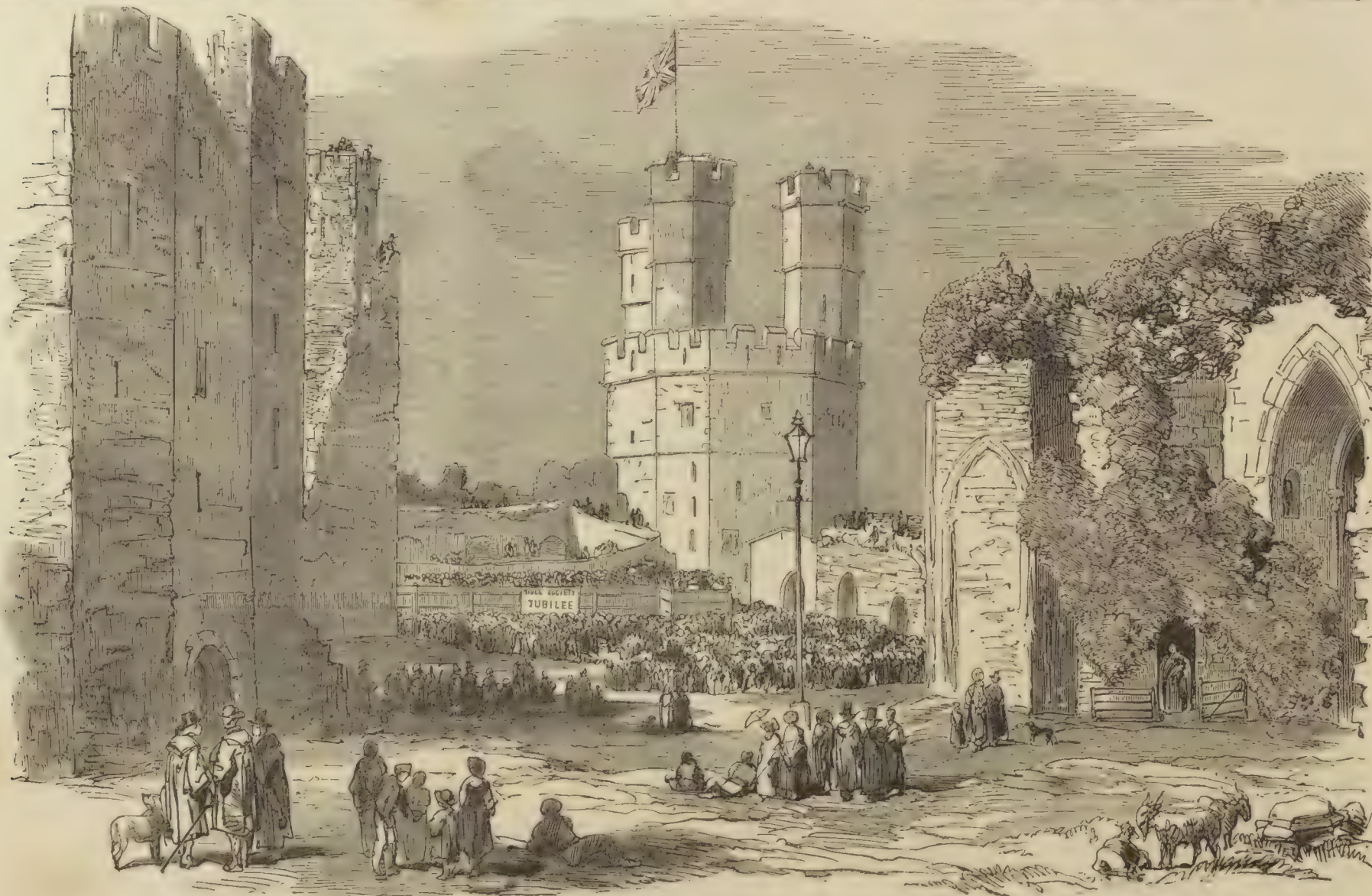
passed unanimously, the Rev. Thomas Phillips addressed the meeting alternately in Welsh and English. A hymn was then sung; and, after passing another resolution, the meeting adjourned.

At six in the evening, the business of the meeting was resumed; and was closed with votes of thanks to the officers of the Auxiliary Society. The proceedings were resumed on Thursday, when the children of all the local Sunday Schools were present.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTHDAY OF LORD KENYON.

THE picturesque village of Hanmer, in Flintshire, was on the 22nd ult. a scene of great festivity, in celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of the Right Hon. Lord Kenyon, who on that day attained his seventy-seventh year.

At an early hour the village was enlivened by the booming of cannon and ringing of bells, which were continued at intervals throughout the day. The morning was very unfavourable, the rain pouring in torrents until two o'clock; the clouds then began to disperse, and the sun broke out with cheering splendour, gladdening the hearts of all who had assembled together to do honour to a nobleman whose virtues they admired and fully appreciated—not from the value of his worldly possessions, his local influence, or his nobility, which he has always adorned; but for his pure Christian principles, his extensive benevolence, and his extreme kindness to all classes, particularly the poor of the neighbourhood, whose wants he always liberally relieved. His Lordship's old age and increasing infirmities having compelled him to withdraw from active life, his neighbours have for the last four years shown their sympathy and attachment to his Lordship by



JUBILEE OF THE CARNARVON AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.—HELD IN CARNARVON CASTLE.



this public celebration of his birthday.

A liberal subscription enabled a committee of management to purchase a fine fat beast and a large quantity of bread, which they distributed to the poor and deserving of the neighbourhood; together with a fat sheep, kindly presented by the Messrs. Lees, of Redbrook.

At three o'clock, a procession formed in the village to Gredington, the country seat of his Lordship. The cortege consisted of flags and banners; Burlton's brass band in a carriage, drawn by four horses; the fat ox in a waggon, tastefully decorated; a carriage containing the bread; a pony carriage, in which was the fat sheep; followed by several hundred of the working-classes. The fat ox and sheep had for supporters gaily-dressed butchers, armed with huge carving-knives, which excited much merriment.

On arriving at Gredington, the procession halted, and was received by the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon, and part of their young family, to whom a congratulatory address was delivered, which the hon. gentleman replied to, thanking the people for such an ardent outpouring of respect and sympathy for his honoured parent; after which the air was rent with continued and deafening cheers. Order being restored, the procession moved in the same manner to the village, where the beef, mutton, and bread were distributed to the populace in an enclosure adjoining the church; during which the band mounted a stage, and commenced playing some excellent music; and dancing commenced in good earnest, and was continued until half-past nine o'clock, when the National Anthem was played, succeeded by a universal burst of cheers for his Lordship, which terminated the rejoicings of the day.

The scene our Artist has selected will show the interesting operation of cutting up the meat, and the lively engagements of the assembled joyous party.

On the same day, at one o'clock, the Hon. Captain Best, R.N., his Lordship's son-in-law, regaled twenty poor aged women with his annual dinner of roast beef and plum-pudding, and ale.

On the day previous, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon regaled upwards of 150 boys and girls, his Lordship's scholars, with tea, buns, and other provisions, in his Lordship's School-room at Penley, at which the Hon. Mrs. and Miss Kenyon presided, assisted by the ladies of the neighbourhood.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE MENAGERIE OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY. THE BUBALE ANTELOPE.

A FEW years since the Zoological Society had scarcely a single species of antelope in their possession. At the present moment great advances

have been made towards supplying this deficiency; and the great family of antelopes is represented not by single specimens, but by herds of the Eland, Leucoryx, Nyghau, and Gazelle, backed by fine examples of the Addax, Sing-Sing, Kob, Bontebok, Springbok, Duikerbok, Isabelline Antelope, Harnessed Antelope, Four-horned Antelope, and Saisin. The Hartebeest was lost to this list recently, but the Society has already been fortunate enough to replace that form by another and still rarer, although closely allied, species, the Bubale Antelope, or Bekr-el-vash, of Northern Africa. The singularly fine condition of this animal, as well as the peculiar character of its expression, has induced us to select it for illustration, and it would be difficult in the whole of this vast group of Ruminants to find a subject of more striking significance.

The antelopes of Asia are comparatively few in number; the ante-

lopes of America do not exceed them in number; and in Europe we have only the chamois. In Africa, however, the antelopes are the great characteristic feature of the wilderness; and every book of travel contains more or less frequent allusion to the vast herds which pour out periodically from the central regions towards the south, in numbers which are altogether unapproached by mammalian life in any other part of the globe. The distribution of the antelopes in Africa appears to be influenced by zones of latitude. The Bubale, for instance, appears to descend but little southward of Morocco; the Addax and Leucoryx go further; they are followed by the Sing-sing, the Kob, and the Harnessed Antelope, with many others, which we receive only from the western coast. Here the Eland of the south has its analogue in the *Jing-i-janga* (*Boselaphus Derbyanus*), of which the only specimens yet known were obtained by the late Earl of Derby from the Gambia. From the parallel of 10° N. the species of the south begin to make their appearance, and gradually increase in number and variety until they culminate in the plains where Sir C. Harris and Gordon Cumming have recorded their massacres. The most recent addition to the southern species now in possession of the Society is the Spring-bok, which has been presented to them by Captain Lakeman, of the Cape Mounted Rifles. The extreme interest attached to every new form which is thus procured will, it is hoped, induce many other officers to co-operate with the Society, as Captain Lakeman has done; while the successful manner in which the Elands are breeding abroad every possible ground for hoping that all the other species may, as opportunity offers, be treated with equally good results.

#### FLAMINGOES.

THE single specimen of this singular bird which the Society previously possessed (and which, as well as the present, they owe to the care of the Hon. C. A. Murray), gave but a feeble idea of the habits of the genus. The group recently received is composed of no less than nine individuals, in the most charming plumage. They are placed in an enclosure of some size, backed by a dense mass of evergreen, which gives full effect to their gorgeous livery of rose-colour and white; and exhibits every gesture by which their strange conformation is characterised, in the most perfect and satisfactory manner. Although hitherto so rare in the menageries of Europe, on account of the difficulty of capturing and preserving them, Flamingoes abound in Egypt in vast numbers, especially in the neighbourhood of Damietta. At certain periods of the year they appear to migrate into Arabia; and then they are seen winging their orderly flight across the waters of the Red Sea in huge divisions, which sometimes extend far beyond a mile in length. The collection of Egyptian birds at the Gardens contains, among other species of interest, two of the rarest of the occasional visitants to Britain—the Buff-backed Heron, and the Ruddy Sheldrake.



BUBALE ANTELOPE, IN THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.



FLAMINGOES, IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.



## Literature.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF ALEXANDER POPE. Edited by ROBERT CARRUTHERS. Illustrated by Portraits and Original Designs. In four volumes. Vol. I. MEMOIR AND CORRESPONDENCE OF POPE. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.

Great as is the name of Johnson, and respectable as is that of Warton, we cordially and to the full agree with the producer of the present work, that both a new biography of Pope and a new edition of his writings were cryingly needed. Mr. Carruthers has not only proved most undeniably the existence of the want, but has completely supplied it. And he has supplied it in an admirable form, containing every merit that belongs to a solid historical memoir, along with the elements requisite to give pleasantness and popularity to an illustrated work intended for everybody's hand. When, after a long interval, public opinion is observed to waver, and in many respects to change, about a conspicuous personage, whose life and character have been already portrayed, and whose writings have been examined in various collated or compared copies: then, whether first or second impressions be correct, it is evident that those who formerly treated the subject have not discharged their office successfully, however high the authority of their name and fame; for there is at once either a necessity to confute them or a necessity to support them—to rectify what they have stated erroneously, or to corroborate what they have stated inadequately. There may be error—there must be insufficiency. That much is clear and incontestable, *prima facie*. But this sort of general argument is not requisite to justify that clearly, vigorously, and agreeably-written memoir of Pope, which is the first part of Mr. Carruthers's work on this illustrious man, and which Messrs. Ingram and Cooke have now published so beautifully, with all the perfection attainable in type and paper, and all the charms of really first-rate illustrations; summoning Pope from the shadows of his peaceful grave, to stand before posterity as he stood before his contemporaries in the most critical moments and interesting conjunctures of his actual career. The general argument, we say, which we have stated, is not necessary to vindicate Mr. Carruthers's labour from the accusation of being supererogatory; it carries the distinct, detailed, and categorical proofs of its own indispensable character in its own pages. Omissions in the life of Pope, omissions in Pope's own notes to his poetry, omissions of enlightening contemporary comments, with some gross misstatements of actual occurrences, some misrepresentations of his motives, some instances of imperfect collation of his successive emendations, or retouches, purporting to give the best, where all are now shown not to have been even compared, are far from being the only blemishes which vitiate former biographies and former editions, disqualifying and "exheredating" the authority of even Johnson and Warton. What will our readers think if we add to all this several enormous instances of mistaken identity in the case of persons with whom Pope's destiny was the most intimately blended, and his intercourse the closest? This is actually demonstrated to have occurred: among other examples, in the case of the family of the lady whose eyes rained the chiefest influence on his fate, who was all through life the object of his principal attachment, and after death his munificently-remembered legatee.

But, independently of the matter added, and the matter corrected, Mr. Carruthers may also claim, for the manner and execution of his inchoate publication, the most severe comparison with the style of his famous predecessors. Altogether, we may safely declare that the public are great gainers by this perfect, painstaking, and beautiful edition. It was long the fashion to deery one of the truest poets, one of the justest thinkers, one of the most energetic, self-depending, indefatigable mental workers, one of the brightest intelligences of whom the literary annals of England can boast; and that poet, that critic, that ever active worker was Alexander Pope. In great part he was self-taught; and surely, in great part, heaven-taught. That test, which the Earl of Carlisle—following Charles Butler, without acknowledging who gave him the hint, and, doubtless, without remembering the source from which it was derived—recommends people to apply in order to ascertain the genuineness or spuriousness of what passes for literary gold, that test is extraordinarily successful in the instance of Pope. No poet, except Shakespeare, has said so many things which have passed into the proverbial texts, allusions, and references of conversation. His countrymen can find nothing to mend in a great many of the thoughts and words of Pope, and nothing to substitute for them. After the rubbing, the rough friction, of more than a century, Pope's sparkling ideas have the glitter upon them still. They are not plated, they are of the true metal, and of its purest parts. And it is not merely the habit and the ability to think;—a much rarer faculty than people imagine—which particularly shines in Pope; but that magical glamour of art, which is known to so few. Art is patience: Buffon said that genius was. There is profound meaning in that true remark; and, while the superficial cry out for a distinction between art and nature—between genius and art—we know what the relation is in which they stand. It is the same in all things; in matters of business, as well as in those literary seed-plots out of which (consciously and unconsciously) all great exploits germinate, and all great changes spring. The "fine frenzy" of which Shakespeare speaks is found in action no less than in composition. Why are people, in the first instance, surprised at every noble or eminent achievement? Because they would have pronounced it a frenzy; and because they still can hardly think it anything else, in spite of that success unattainable otherwise, and attained thus. The passage of the Douro, and the victory of the bridge of Lodi, were as much the fruit of fine frenzies as that divine soliloquy on Sleep which Shakespeare puts into the mouth of *Henry IV.*; and Peterborough's conquest of Valencia is not less a piece of poetry than Campbell's "Ye Mariners of England." Thus again, *les extrêmes se touchent*; the profoundest calculation returns to the first wild, adventurous, felicitous idea; and the elaborate poetry of Pope is but the expression, in an appropriate guise (not *always* easily got, at first) of the spirit which animates what seems to be the irrepressible verse of Byron. Contempt is a feeling which we never encourage: it is often false in its foundations—it is often affected in its objects. No critic ever really felt it for Pope. But, in spite of our best exertions to repress the sentiment, we cannot help feeling it for Pope's critics. There is abundant evidence to show how Dryden, according to every likelihood, would have admired his great successor—in many respects certainly inferior to him, but in some qualities greatly and undeniably superior. If we then pass to the noble name which comes next (or at least to the greatest which comes next), we find that Byron was equally capable of appreciating Pope. It is curious that it was for the profit of one of the most devoted and enthusiastic admirers of Pope that Pope was so long sought to be depreciated; and it is also curious that he, who so truly admired and so deeply appreciated Pope, should have in general invoked a Muse far more lax than his, and pursued a path much more devious and erratic. In his "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers," Byron, indeed, gave the surest proof of his faith in the genius of the poet whom some of Byron's admirers affect to undervalue.

The publication which has suggested these observations is one of those for which it is scarcely necessary to bespeak attention; it will secure that; nor would it be easy to exaggerate its merits. A perfect edition of Pope's works was much needed; and here we shall have more: we obtain in the same work a life of the poet, a conspectus of his career, an appreciating record of what he did and of what he was, and a proof of the mistaken opinion which many persons have formed of his mind. Quintilian said that whoever admired Cicero might rest assured that he was making progress in all polite learning, and especially in eloquence: *cui Cicero valde placuit, ille se proficisci sciat*. Indeed the past tense here might be taken to

signify that, before he could admire Cicero, he must already have reached a stage of considerable advancement. We are tempted to say nearly the same thing of the admirers of Pope; and indubitably those whom this great poet and true artist does not please may well doubt of their own proficiency. One very common idea respecting Pope is, that he was a cold spirit; that he had little or no inspiration, no real *apptus*; but that his circumspection and pains, in whatever he composed, were infinite. From the very beginning, Pope manifested the "divine fury" of his vocation. He was evidently called to be a bard. So far from being cold, he was always impassioned. Something to which he listened, which nobody else could hear, whispered to him even in his boyhood. He walked the streets "like a thing possessed." He stole into Will's Coffee-house, because Dryden was there; and the child Eliseus wanted to see the mantle still flowing over the shoulders of Elias. Even Wycherley was not beneath his notice, or beyond his young enthusiasm; for Wycherley (though he soon deceived, by his manifest mediocrity, the misplaced admiration of the real poet) had trodden the awful shades, *nemus horrens*. Such was the "sacred rage" of one whose muse has been pronounced frigid by many teachers of the vulgar.

Pope's life could not but be interesting. He was one of those who rendered their era remarkable in the literary history of England. Addison, Steele, Locke, Bolingbroke, Shaftesbury, Swift, and many others almost vindicate to them-elves the dignity of making their age Augustan. In France there was equal brilliancy. Pope was one year older than Montesquieu, and six years older than Voltaire, who survived him, however, about thirty years. In Germany, literature had not yet opened its modern career; though, before Pope died, some of its pioneers were at work.

Roscoe, Bowles, and Warton, have merited highly of the literary world by their editions of Pope; but, for the public at large, it might have been almost as well had those editions never seen the light. The present work, besides the charm of so many admirable illustrations, occupies, as it proposes and professes to occupy, "a middle place between those expensive annotated editions, and the ordinary reprints in which no attempt is made to illustrate the text, and from which most of the author's own notes are excluded." We cordially recommend the work to our readers—certain that they will be grateful to us if we induce them to pursue it. Of course, Pope's poetry will long outlive the memory of his active career. Still there is much to interest men in the manner of Pope's life, his quarrels, friendships, and affections. His deformity had no little influence on his fate, and a very great influence on his verses. Had he been merely presentable in person, his satire would probably have been less keen, and all his studies and labours less assiduous. He might have been a happier man; but probably he would not have been so eminent a writer. He often extorts our wonder, because he was repelled from the hopes and objects of ordinary society—because, in fact, he suffered. This is not an unusual case. Lord Bacon wrote an essay on the influence which personal defects exert over the mind, habits, and ambition of those who labour under them. In Pope's verses there is immense energy; and it is of that sort which nothing but long and patient study can impart, and then only where there is true genius. The effects produced, and sometimes by two or three words, resemble sleight of hand. Great labour has gone to them. For one curiously felicitous line many hundreds have been blotted, and now, so perfect is the ultimate result that it is impossible to hope for better. Pope's verses, in a vast number of instances, are the very master-pieces of the language. It was a sort of premonition which made him so eager to see Dryden and the others who were destined to occupy the remembrance of his countrymen: for, assuredly, he himself will never be forgotten, nor will what he has contributed to the literature of England be suffered "willingly to die." He will ever be a lesson to the youthful student; while, the more accomplished a man is, the more he will delight in his productions. Foreigners will study him as an English classic, and his own countrymen will be proud of his fame—that only consolation which he had in his lifetime to compensate for the despite which nature did him in disfiguring his person and destroying his health.

Editor, publishers, and time have at last combined to give the world all that these three agents can evermore be expected to give in elucidation of a subject worthy of their best and their ripest exertions.

LIFE OF BENJAMIN ROBERT HAYDON, HISTORICAL PAINTER; from his Autobiography and Journals. Edited and Compiled by TOM TAYLOR, of the Inner Temple, Esq., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, &c. Three volumes. London: Longman and Co.

It is commonly taken for granted that you cannot do a man greater justice where he has differences with others, than to listen to his own statement of his case. This may be true in some specific dispute or variance—and then, not unless the individual possess the art of adequately treating facts in his favour, as well as facts that may seem prejudicial; but, assuredly, it is seldom or never good for anybody to have to plead the general record of his life. We do not quite agree with Mr. Taylor, where he says, "*No man, who has left an autobiography, has ever succeeded in making himself out a hero in the world's opinion*—we cannot, we say, entirely admit the truth of this observation. It is evident that an autobiography can never be more than a greater or lesser part of a life; the end of it cannot be recorded by the man himself. Forgiving, therefore, in any autobiographic specimen, that incompleteness which is of its essence, we find more than one instance, in which portions of a career have been so recounted by the hero of it, that no historian could have done as much for his fame as he himself effected. Is not Caesar a veritable hero of the greatest magnitude in his own account of the long series of conflicts, administrative cares, military triumphs, and civil improvements, which constituted his life, and filled his career in Switzerland, France, Belgium, and the Rhénish provinces? When Marius comes with his supplement—which is a biography—to continue the suspended autobiography, is it a gain—is it not a loss for the fame of the principal actor? "The Retreat of the Ten Thousand" is unquestionably another autobiography, so far as it extends; and in that work is Xenophon no hero? To take a far humbler example, Silvio Pellico, in his "Imprisonments," has not succeeded so very badly in putting the reader entirely on his side, though he had to give his own account of himself. And, if we select a case more parallel than any of these to that of Benjamin Robert Haydon, we find that another artist—Benvenuto Cellini—wrote his own history; and that in that book he stands before posterity in the most life-like and self-evincing truth—the proportions being those of a giant; the colours at once natural, striking, and ineffaceable. But Haydon, on the other hand, gains nothing by having told his own tale: the impression is unpleasant; the reader is irritated by what never fails to irritate him—the double consciousness that he is not deceived, and that the writer imagines that he is, or imagined that he would be. It is quite true that no autobiographer "ever made himself out a hero," who was not a hero. In this, which is, we suppose, what Mr. Taylor means, though it is not what he says, we concur; and we will add that no autobiographer "ever made himself out" greater or better than he was; and whoever has painted himself even other than he was, has generally made himself lower, weaker, or worse. We speak not, of course, of acts which may be suppressed or invented—giving us not a biography, but a series of lies—but we speak of attempts to colour the character and disguise the general bent of thought, of sentiment, and of passion. This can never be done; and if it ever could, it never will. Total nudity adorns the minds no more than the bodies of human beings on earth. We believe that Rousseau was not so degraded as he stands in his own self-picture; nor do we think that any one of poor Haydon's hobgoblins—his epiphantic hauntings—the Royal Academicians, could have treated his memory less advantageously than it is affected by the publication of this not uninteresting diary.

He was born in 1786, and received in his boyhood a very meagre education. His family, which was ancient and respectable, was from Devon. Of the mother of his father and the father of his mother he records two particulars:—The lady being once alone, an escaped American prisoner crept into her house, and appealed to her protection till pursuit was over. This Rahab treated "the spy" unlike the manner in which the first Rahab treated the Israelite spies: "She told him," says Haydon, "that 'she hated all Americans,' and turned the poor fellow out into the street." The other particular relates to the father of his mother, a clergyman, who met a singular end: he was preaching one day, when the sounding-board fell on his head, and killed him in the pulpit.

Haydon's boyhood was in no sense remarkable, if we may pass over the fact that he was the most self-willed and passionate of children, and that the best way of pacifying him was to show him prints. At the age of eighteen, against the will, the tears, and the supplications of both his parents, braving what was almost the malediction of his father, and withstanding his mother's declaration that such a step would break her heart, he left the family roof-tree and a thriving business, to which he had been bound apprentice, and rushed to London, full of the resolution,

to make his fortune not only as a great painter, but as the founder of the glory of his country in "high art." After more than forty years' of fierce struggling, in which occasional triumphs were blended more frequently with terrible reverses, he at length turned his back on the field, and ended, by suicide, an experiment which had been to him full of splendid dreams and intoxicating hopes in its commencement, of cruel difficulties and unavailing labours in its prosecution, and of despair and madness in its ultimate issue. We will not here pretend to adjudicate upon his merits as a painter; doubtless, in some respects, they were very, very high; but there is a mark in Haydon's mind that it was—to borrow a metaphor from the field—of but half-bred genius: that mark is to be flurried while in study and operation. He was maddened both by any artistic improvement or discovery, and by any great venture. These things tranquillise, in an artistic sense, the intense spirit which is to be victorious; its fretfulness is not then; its very eagerness is full of calm.

This book, though all under the shadow of its awful conclusion, excites incessant interest. Haydon knew everybody, he had no mean sense of humour, though his want of judgment and taste often make him spoil an excellent remark by dwelling on the same idea with fatiguing persistency; he tells a story, and sketches the main lines of a character with great skill, and his racy anecdotes are innumerable. Such is the nature of the diary, chequered by sarcasms, repinings, and prayers. He tells us repeatedly that he himself was a most religious man, and his journal contains a great many supplications to the Supreme Being, couched in terms which show that the petitioner had very peculiar views on the subject. Those "ways" which we are told are "unsearchable"—and which, indeed, more reason would, without any revelation, conceive to be beyond the reach of any minute or unbroken human investigation—those "ways" Haydon imagines that he perfectly understands, intuitively accompanies or follows, and not unfrequently even anticipates. He is tempted to pawn another man's books: he resists the temptation; money comes to him the same day. Why? "He is a believer; and he knows why." No doubt, some time or other, in some way or other, all acts will be rewarded with their real dues. That is the general fact, the knowledge of which all men may possess; but its application to every special and minute case is the usurpation of a knowledge which no man can claim without inspiration. The whole life of Haydon betrays one constant persuasion that he was thus privileged. Occasionally he prays with a sort of crazy adroitness, as though he had thought of a way of "managing" (no other word would be so exact)—of managing the Sovereign Disposer of events. He offers a motive, which must prevail—"Let me finish these pictures, for they will redound to the glory of Him who made me, and gave me my talents." The reader will find many such passages towards the close of the journal in the third volume, where poor Haydon's final struggles are related and portrayed. After this, let not Mr. Tom Taylor take advantage of Haydon's peculiar manner of praying, to sneer at the practice itself. He may mean that this manner is not peculiar; wherever it be found, we agree with him that it promises little advantage.

When Haydon arrived in London, he soon made himself one of the artist world; and many amusing passages occur about Northcote, Opie, Fuseli, and a thousand others. He was asked to breakfast by Wilkie, and found him seated stark-naked on the side of his bed, drawing himself in a looking-glass. "It's jest capital practice," said the Scotchman, without desisting. Haydon's "first dinner in high life" shows the man, and the stuff of which he was made. It was at Sir George Beaumont's. Next comes his acquaintance with Lord Mulgrave and others. Then the picture of "Dentatus" is exhibited; and presently, if Haydon's first dinner at Sir G. Beaumont's indicated one part of his character, the subsequent quarrel with the same Sir George indicated another: "I was proud," says Haydon, "of a quarrel with a man of rank, which would help to bring me into notice." Sir George was a discerning patron, Haydon an exalted mind. "However vicious I am," says Haydon, "I never soothe my mind with plausible pretences." What is that very remark?

It is a curious circumstance that Fauntleroy, who was afterwards hanged, should have advanced money to Haydon, which money enabled West to lend Haydon the sum of fifteen pounds, when, apparently, Haydon otherwise would have starved.

We must not attempt to go through the vast forest of stories which this work contains. One more amusing and characteristic anecdote of Wilkie, and we will conclude, with a strong recommendation to the public to read the book itself.

One day, in Paris, Haydon and Wilkie were looking down the Louvre which was filled with people of all nations, for it was the memorable year 1834. Haydon asked Wilkie supposing he did not know any nation present, what would be his impression from the look of the English? Wilkie, after a careful pause of contemplation, in which he studied the English, who were mingled with Russians and French, replied, "Dear, dear; they just look as if they had a balance at their bankers."

A careful account of innumerable personal vicissitudes, with notices of many remarkable people and events, brings this autobiography at length to the dreadful "God Forgive Me," which preceded the end of poor Benjamin Robert Haydon. The work is rich in its information, and harrowing in its final interest; yet full of all those amusing ingredients which would befit a story long intended, in the hope of its writer, to terminate differently.

THE HUNTER IN THE PRAIRIES: SOLITARY RAMBLES, &c. By JOHN PALLISER, Esq. With Illustrations. Murray.

The first keeper of the pantry to the human race was the hunter; the next, the shepherd; the third, a purveyor of larger resources and more varied genius, was the farmer. Hunting developed the warlike, and pastoral life encouraged the pacific tendencies of men; agriculture gave fixity to home, and sowed not only seeds for a harvest, but the seeds of nations. Each of these three great parent-pursuits acted upon the mind, stimulated the growth of its faculties, and enlarged the scope of its empire. Hunting made people quick of hand and eye, ready and sudden in resource, cool in difficulty, calm in danger, patient in fatigue, stubborn in want, soldiers of nature. The same qualities still characterise, and will, to the end of time, the distinctive class, whose delight is in field sports. Their principal intellectual profit is skill. Their profession created some trades, such as the cordwainer's, the saddler's, the armourer's, the curer's—but no science. They, at most, prepared materials for the inquiries of botany, mineralogy, geology, and chemistry. But, as soon as the hunter's skill fell under rules and was reduced to method, there was, in the absence of any strict science, a great art of which he could boast, an art sufficiently pliable and sensitive in its nature, and found to be as available where the objects of carnage were fellow-men, as where they were the beasts of the field or the birds of the mountain. In reading Mr. Palliser's book, we can understand the stress which Xenophon lays on the value of the chase in military education. The collector and guardian of the flocks, on the opposite hand, was perhaps the first man of science; and his science was the noblest of all that are called physical. The heavens were his only book, the only book of his tribe—the great, illumined, ever-open family volume—which he had to peruse and to interpret for himself from the lonely hill-top. In this volume he learned to read, in this he learned to think. Sheltered in pastoral seclusion, with some rock for his observatory on occasion—a stationary, peaceful, and contented man—he ascertained facts which were precious to the restless wanderer, which enabled the earliest mariners to venture over the sea with impunity, which taught them where they were amid new and strange scenes, and which rendered the whole earth but as a homestead with many rooms—an abode with many mansions. What pastoral life did for the science of astronomy and agriculture, for the science of chemistry, for that of hydrostatics, for that of dynamics in general—hunting contributed largely to effect for natural history in general, and for a system of lighter and more obvious information, which is neither a science nor an art—geography: a necessary and valuable note, record, chronicle, and memorandum; but requiring no recondite principles of ratiocination—lying under the eye, consisting of nothing but surface, aspect, and outline.

It would be absurd to suppose that there is even an approximation towards an equality of value in the respective literatures which these great and primordial callings have produced. The height of social civilisation is evidently that which is beyond even the least imperfect of the three states we have mentioned, and which is indicated by the prevalence of multiplied, extensive, and flourishing manufactures. Whatever may happen in individual cases, it seems, unfortunately, to be the history of communities, that merit precedes, while corruption and degeneracy follow, the acquisition of the prizes of the earth. The earliest stages of society, though both barbarous and marked by startling outbreaks of crime, are full of energy, simplicity, valour, sentiment, and enthusiasm; habitual and wide-spread vice comes later. Thus, the world runs in a cycle: from great and general necessities to great and general virtues, from these to their rewards, and to prosperity; from prosperity to corruption, and from corruption, back again to ruin. And so, "we ripe and ripe, and then we rot and rot."



Mr. Palliser belongs to a class who form a link between the present and the past. As in the most distant generation, a family likeness is often seen reproducing the glance and expression of a remote ancestor, and some old portrait seems "to have stepped down from its frame," so in this refined and scientific age, the spirit of the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman hunter, a repressed but indistinguishable flame, bursts through whatever outlet our artificial organisation leaves vacant, and reveals the kinship and origin of the *audax Japeti genus*. This nation shows even in its past, that it has some time still to live before it shall live out the free, fearless, and venturesome character which it has borne from a time whereof neither the memory of man nor that of history "runneth to the contrary." We have no wolves left among us; but so long as there is a country where the wild beast ranges, English Pallisers may be met there, the knights errant of the chase. The refinement of the train has here brought no Byzantine degeneracy. Foremost in the useful sciences, familiar with the fine arts, enjoying power, and wealth, and luxury, and fame, this people can yet criticise the Indian of the Backwoods in venatory matters, and can handle the rifle better than many a wild ranger whose livelihood it is.

Such a sportsman is our friend, the author of these "Rambles and Adventures." The field which our islands afforded was too small for him, without at least one grand experimental variation to be remembered during a life. He wanted to travel back to the times when men hunted, not exactly, indeed, still for food, but for their preservation from being turned into food themselves; and, in truth, by a voyage to the "far west," and then a pedestrian excursion of many hundred marches and many thousand miles, he virtually recalled some bygone centuries, and placed them between himself and the present condition of the European world. He has felt hunger and thirst, and slept in snow. He has sought the grizzly bear in his own haunts, and has encountered him fairly, to try which of the two should eat the other. He has shot a vast number of animals with which the majority of us are very unfamiliar; and birds, with the splendid plumage of which we enrich cabinet and museum. He has encountered adventures which would justify a larger volume; and on one occasion, with chest and stomach protected by nothing better than the stock of his rifle, he sustained, in his single person, a grand charge from the crashing and massive forehead of a buffalo-bull. We must frankly acknowledge that it is not those only who experience these adventures, or who would even wish to confront them, who feel an interest in the narrative of the particulars. As a coward often delights in the story of a battle, so the sedentary reader is perchance not less charmed with the hilarious and exciting reminiscences of a genuine sportsman than sportsmen themselves. In addition, too, to the multiplicity of the incidents and the general and varied richness of the subject of his book, we can honestly applaud the directness and simplicity of the style in which Mr. Palliser has written it. He has much to tell, and he tells it in a truly agreeable, unaffected mode. No one who peruses his work will speak of it differently.

## Fine Arts.

### THE ART-UNION EXHIBITION.

The Art-Union of London opened on Monday last to its subscribers and the public, its customary annual exhibition of pictures, selected by its prizeholders from the London exhibitions of the present season. The pictures thus exhibited are 178 in number, of which 140 are painted in oil colours and 38 in water colours. They occupy three rooms, and there is no one work but what is seen to the best advantage. Each picture is hung on a level with the eye, and whatever the merits or defects of the prizes may be, there they are unconcealed before the spectator.

On the whole, we consider the selection good, and in arriving at such a decision we have taken into consideration the difficulties against which the Council and the prizeholders have to contend in making their selections. We are not to look upon these prizes as even average examples of the same priced pictures to be seen on the walls of the six exhibitions from which they have been selected. The choice pictures of each year's exhibition in London are either commissions given by patrons and collectors, before a canvas is touched, or even a sketch made; or pictures bought by patrons and collectors off the easels of their respective artists, while in an unfinished state, or before their exhibition to the public. Such being the case, it is clear that the prizeholders—though their money is as good as that of either professed patrons or recognised collectors—do not enter into the field of selection with the same advantages as their most successful competitors; yet it is wonderful to see what good things escape even the careful eyes of patrons and dealers accustomed to go the round of the artists' studios. And this Exhibition we consider as an excellent reply to an argument too frequently used to the disparagement of the Art-Union, that its prizes are only under-sized fish, that have been allowed to slip through the meshes of the collector's net; for here, certainly, are some choice works of art, that will hereafter realise larger sums than their prizeholders have given for them. Such, we conceive, will be the case with Mr. Linnell's exquisite little landscape, "Shepherds" (No. 139), selected with great good taste from the Royal Academy Exhibition, at the price of £60, by Messrs. Thomson and Sons.

The principal money-prize, £200, was gained by the Hon. F. Lygon, and has been laid out with an additional expenditure from his own pocket of £50, in the purchase of Mr. E. Lear's large picture of "The City of Syracuse, from the ancient quarries where the Athenians were imprisoned, n. c. 413." This is a picture of much merit, and, perhaps, the chief prize, under all circumstances, could not have been better laid out.

The next great prize was gained by Mr. B. Haynes, who has selected, with great good taste, Mr. F. R. Lee's very charming view, "Looking up Loch Etive from Tainult, Argyleshire." Mr. Lee is too cold at times to our liking, but he has an eye so sensibly alive to the Beauties of English and Scottish scenery, that we must pardon his occasional coldness of manner for the other excellences which he spreads over his pictures with a liberal and a skilful hand. A second prize of the same amount (£150) was obtained by Mr. H. Wilson, and has been the means of securing to him one of the few large figure compositions in the collection, viz., Mr. Hurlstone's "First appearance of Columbus in Spain," a leading attraction of the Exhibition in Suffolk-street. The next prizes of moment in this lottery of art are the five £100 prizes, three of which have been expended in oil pictures, and two on works in water colours: Miss See's view of "A View in Wales" (45), by Mr. John Bell; Mr. Long, "A Selecting of Mont Orgueil Castle, Jersey—from the Sea" (58), by Mr. J. Wilson, jun.; the Rev. H. Allon, "A View in North Wales—Morning" (61), by Mr. Sidney R. Percy; Mr. W. A. Richmond, "Mr. Henry, Warren's Walk to Emmaus" (161); and Mr. W. Yarrell, "A very pleasing and accurate view on the Thames between Reading and Sonning" (162), by Mr. Aaron Penley. For the acquisitions obtained by prizeholders of smaller sums we must refer our readers to the catalogue itself. Landscapes, we may observe, prevail throughout the Exhibition—it is in landscape painting that our English school of art may be said particularly to excel.

The visitor to this Exhibition—and half an hour may be very well spent there by all who are interested in the progress of art in England—should by no means omit to make a three minutes' inspection of the engravings now in progress for the Society. The leading attraction, and the work of the greatest promise, is Mr. J. T. Willmore's clever line engraving from the view of "Tilbury Fort—Wind against Tide"—one of those picturesque and accurate representations of river life and land scenery which no one can render with a more exquisite pencil than its painter, Mr. Clarkson Standfield. A proof impression would be an acquisition to the portfolio of the collector. Will all the impressions turn out alike? Great care should be taken in working so delicate a plate, for both painter and engraver suffer alike by indifferent impressions.

## THE NEW CAB LAWS AND REGULATIONS.—1853.\*

### THE BADGE.

Every cabman, during employment, must wear conspicuously upon his breast a badge, and allow the number to be taken when required.

### THE TICKET OF THE NUMBER OF THE CAB, ETC.

On no account should the hirer neglect to take the ticket, which the cabman is bound to deliver, specifying the number of the cab, &c.

### THE HIRING.

A cab is to be considered as plying for hire, whether on the stand or in the streets; and the driver is compellable to drive any person, unless he is already hired, the proof of which lies with the cabman. The hirer must state at the time of hiring, if he desires to be driven by time; but the driver cannot be compelled to drive by time after eight o'clock in the evening, or before six o'clock in the morning.

### THE JOURNEY.

The hirer may require to be driven to any distance within six miles from the place of hiring, or for any time not exceeding one hour. The cabman is bound to take the number of persons marked on his cab, and to carry a reasonable quantity of luggage. If hired by time, the driver can be compelled to go at a speed of four miles an hour; and, if hired by distance, he must drive not less than six miles an hour, or less if required.

### THE FARE BY DISTANCE.—NOT EXCEEDING FOUR MILES FROM TEMPLE-BAR.

For two passengers the fare is 6d. per mile, and any portion of a mile is charged 6d.; for more than two persons, 6d. (not 6d. per mile) can be demanded for each extra person, in addition to the whole fare that would be paid for two persons. Two children under ten count as one person.

### BACK FARE FOR A DISTANCE EXCEEDING FOUR MILES FROM TEMPLE-BAR.

The cab being actually discharged beyond the four mile circle from Temple-bar, back fare can be demanded, at the rate of 6d. for every mile or portion of a mile that exceeds the four-mile circle, the distance to be estimated from the nearest point of the circle; but no addition to the sixpenny mile fare can be demanded for any distance, unless the cab is discharged beyond the circle; and only 6d. extra (not 6d. per mile) can be demanded for each person exceeding two persons.

### EXTRA FOR WAITING FIFTEEN MINUTES.

The cabman can only demand 6d. in addition to his fare for each complete fifteen minutes that has elapsed in waiting; for less than fifteen minutes nothing can be demanded; and in the case of a number of stoppages, the whole time occupied must be calculated for at the rate of 6d. for every complete fifteen minutes. The driver is compellable to wait less than fifteen minutes without any charge whatever.

### FARE BY TIME.

For two persons the fare is 2s. per hour, and 6d. for every fifteen minutes or portion of fifteen minutes after the first hour; for more than two persons 6d. for each extra person can be demanded, in addition to the whole fare that would be paid by two persons.

### LUGGAGE.

For two passengers a reasonable quantity of luggage can be taken without additional charge to the fare. When more than two persons are carried inside, 2d. per package is to be paid, in addition to the fare, for every package carried outside the cab.

### SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

In the case of disputes about fares, the Table of Distances, signed by the Commissioners, and which every cabman is bound to have, will be conclusive evidence; if a dispute cannot be settled by these authorities, the course will be to drive to the nearest police court. Application for a summons must be made within seven days of the offence.

### PROPERTY LEFT IN CABS.

Any property left in a cab must be taken within twenty-four hours to the nearest police station, where the owner can receive it on payment of a reasonable sum.

### LOSS OF LUGGAGE.

If any luggage is lost through the carelessness of the driver, the owner may sue the proprietor of the cab in the County Court or the Superior Courts.

CAUTION.—The number on the ticket should be compared with the number on the cab, not the number on the badge; and in every case the delivery of this ticket should be requested, as it is an important document in the case of lost luggage, disputes, or misbehaviour.

\* From the New Distance Map of London, published by W. H. Smith and Son.

**RABBITS IN PARIS.**—Under the head of "Rabbits in Paris" we extract the following, which is somewhat amusing. A gentleman relating the incidents of his travels while in Paris, says:—"I entered a restaurant on the other side of the Seine, and ordered a rabbit. I was green—verdant as the first cucumber, even as early peas—or I should not have done thus. The rabbit came, and I offered the *Montreuil* to an old Frenchman opposite, whose eyes were fixed upon my plate, but he bowed a negative. The bow puzzled me. It was too much. 'Monsieur has not been long in Paris?' No, I have just arrived. 'Monsieur is going to eat that?' 'Yes; may I offer you a slice?' 'Monsieur will allow me to make a small observation?' inquired the Frenchman, with a frightful grimace. 'Certainly,' I replied, becoming alarmed. 'Monsieur,' that rabbit once *mexed*, he replied, with the utmost gravity."

**THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS IN CANADA.**—The weather for the past week has been excessively hot and sultry. Farmers have now completed the sowing of their turnips, which, in many places, have been greatly injured by the late severe hail storm. The crops generally throughout the country have a fine appearance. Late planted potatoes have failed in several places. Haymaking has commenced in several parts, and the crop is abundant.—*Quebec Morning Chronicle*, July 23.

**PURE.**—In visiting an old blind woman the other day, I was struck with what to me was a peculiar use of the word *pure*. Having inquired after the dame's health, and been assured that she was much better, I begged her not to rise from the bed on which she was sitting, whereupon she said, "Thank you, sir; I feel quite *pure* this morning."—*OXONIENSIS*.—*From Notes and Queries*.

**GIGANTIC CHIMNEY.**—At the Heaton Mersey Cotton Mills and Bleach Works, near Manchester, a chimney, commenced on the 7th December, 1852, was completed on the 30th ult. The following are its dimensions, which have rarely been exceeded:—Height, 270 feet; diameter of outside base, 28 feet; diameter of inside case, 18 feet; diameter of summit, outside, 9 feet 4 inches; and of aperture for smoke, 7 feet. The structure contains 507,000 bricks, and stands upon a red sandstone foundation, with a table of brickwork 6 feet thick for a base. The chimney was designed by Mr. Charles Lee, of Manchester, and built by Mr. John Ashton, builder, of Blackley. The chimney serves for a great number of furnaces, at which there is a weekly consumption of 190 tons of coals. It is furnished with a lightning conductor on an improved principle.

**ANOTHER EXPEDITION TO EXPLORE THE NIGER.**—It is in contemplation to fit out another Admiralty expedition to explore the source of the Niger, with the view of promoting civilisation in Africa, and opening up new sources of commerce. It is held that the present is a fitting opportunity for another expedition to the Niger, inasmuch as the mortality on the coast of Africa has of late very much decreased.

**RAILWAY TRAFFIC.**—The traffic returns on railways in the United Kingdom, published for the week ending July 30, amounted to £373,863, and for the corresponding week of last year to £324,021; showing an increase of £49,842. The gross receipts for the eight railways having their termini in the metropolis amounted to £176,721, and for the corresponding week of last year to £154,293; showing an increase of £22,323. The receipts on the other railways in the United Kingdom amounted to £197,142, and for the corresponding period of 1852 to £169,623; showing an increase of £27,519; which, added to the increase on the metropolitan lines, makes the total increase, £49,842, over the corresponding week of 1852. The total increase from the 2nd of January to the 30th of July over the corresponding period of 1852 amounted to £1,056,193, or 12.63 per cent.

**DEPARTURE FOR AUSTRALIA.**—On Saturday the Royal Australian Mail Steam-ship Company's screw steam-ship *Sydney* took her departure, and proceeded down the river for Australia. In wending her course through the Gallions Reach, above Woolwich, she caught the ground. Fortunately, however, the tide was flowing, and she came off unhurt. She brought up at Gravesend to receive the mails, and at day-break on Sunday morning sailed direct for her destination (Sydney and Adelaide), without calling in at any port down Channel. She had a number of passengers and a full cargo of goods.

**INCREASE OF TRADE.**—The Board of Trade returns, just issued, are marked by a progressive increase in almost all our manufactures; the shipments of silk, woollens, and linens, have been very large. Hardware and cutlery, glass, leather, machinery and metals, all show a great increase. Cotton and woollen are scarcely so good as usual. The imports of tea have been very large, being necessarily affected by the reduced duty, which has caused an increase of 1,105,585 lb. in the month over the same month last year; coffee and cocoa are also beginning to show an increase. The consumption of sugar continues steadily on the rise. The imports of wheat in the past six months are more than one million quarters in excess of the same period last year. There has been an increase of 100,000 gallons in the month's consumption of wines.

**NEW MOTH.**—At a recent meeting of the Entomological Society, Mr. Westwood exhibited the cocoons of a new moth from Tropical Africa, which he thought might be brought into use as a new material for textile fabrics.

## ROUTE OF THE AUSTRALIAN DIRECT STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

On the next page is an accurate chart of the route proposed to be taken by the Australian Direct Steam Navigation Company—a company which has just received a Royal charter of incorporation. Our object in giving this map is to afford as wide a circulation as possible to a Company whose objects, to use the emphatic words of the President of the Board of Trade, are so "unexceptionable in principle" that it was impossible he could refuse the application for a charter, and which we consider ourselves one of the most efficient and magnificent projects yet brought before the public with a view to connect the mother country with her rising colonies in Australia. The repeated failures via Singapore and the Cape of Good Hope, extending the duration of the voyage to double that anticipated by Government, and the annoyance and disarrangement of business caused by these frequent suspensions of postal communication, renders this Company's scheme a boon, not only to the merchant, but to all who have friends or relations in the Australian lands. The more we reflect on the astonishing discovery of gold and its results, the more we feel convinced that both the Government and the merchants of England should come forward with a liberal hand to support an enterprise of such vast importance as this to the nation at large. Few undertakings we believe will be found more lucrative to the shareholders, as few are so truly national; and, as our object has been to make ourselves conversant with facts, we shall, as succinctly as possible, analyse the comparative advantages of this route as regards ease, comfort, and rapidity of communication, and also the probabilities of its returning a handsome dividend to the shareholders. And in the observations we make we shall confine ourselves as much as possible to facts, the correctness of which can easily be tested by our readers.

The chart divides the route into four stages:—The first from Milford Haven to Navy Bay, on the Atlantic side of the Isthmus of Panama—the distance to be run is 4552 nautical miles; the second, the passage across the Isthmus, by rail, to the town of Panama, on the Pacific side—a distance of only 46 miles; the third, thence to Otaheite, one of the finest and most densely-populated islands in those seas, distant 4488 miles; and lastly to Sydney or Melbourne (alternately)—a further stage of about 3351 nautical miles: making a gross total from England to Australia of 12,437 nautical miles. The entire route—favoured by the smoothest seas, with moderate winds, a pleasant temperature, and the absence of adverse currents—presents, without question, the most unobjectionable navigation in the world.

The very designation of this Company, the Australian "Direct," marks in an emphatic manner the nature of the seas to be passed over; for no adverse weather has to be encountered in the entire route, of sufficient duration and strength to impede the velocity of paddle-wheel vessels of 3000 tons burthen—the size of the vessels proposed to be used by this Company (with proportionate horse-power), or to cause their divergence from their track.

Although it is not intended to lay aside steaming for the entire voyage, to secure rapidity of communication and punctuality of arrival at the several stations, yet, as the Direct Australian Line is especially favoured by the winds for more than three-fourths of the voyage, all the steamers constructed for this Company will be efficiently masted; and from this arrangement an enormous saving of fuel is anticipated, as the steamers will, whilst running with a fair wind, use but two of their four boilers, and yet obtain the same maximum speed as a steamer unaided by canvas could from the use of four boilers and a double consumption of fuel; thus, steaming and sailing through these favourable latitudes, will save fuel and effect a great economy in that most expensive part of the engine-room equipments—the boilers. Another still more important object will be obtained from a due economy in the expenditure of the fuel; for every ton carried unnecessarily displaces cargo, for the rapid transit of which across these seas the merchant is content to pay a comparatively high rate of freight.

One other important feature of the intentions of the directors of this Steam Company ought not to be passed over, as it is very important, where large numbers of passengers are proposed to be conveyed in a vessel, and this the paddle-wheel mode of progression enables them to offer, viz., an unlimited supply of fresh water; for each paddle-wheel will be fitted with two condensers inside the paddle-boxes for turning salt water into fresh; the condensation of the steam being effected by placing two flat pieces of iron a quarter of an inch or so apart, and exposing a large cooling surface. The steam is conveyed by one pipe from the steam chest to these condensers, and another carries the steam so condensed into tanks. The simple revolution of the paddle-wheels throwing the cool water against these condensers will enable more than six tons a day to be obtained from the two paddle-boxes of vessels of the size contemplated, viz. of 3000 tons burthen; and this, too, without any appreciable increase in the expenditure of fuel.

The prospectus states that which all the world knows to be true, "that the produce of gold from the colony of Victoria alone is over £18,000,000 annually; with every prospect of a continuous increase, exclusive of the produce of New South Wales, which forms a large addition to this vast amount." It will, therefore, remain for us simply to call attention to the dividends which the British and American steamers running to the Isthmus of Panama, upon the south and north-west coasts of Panama, are obtaining—and which lines must be feeders of this great trunk line—to prove how remunerative the project is likely to be.

The (British) Pacific Steam Navigation Company, now long established, and which company run their boats bi-monthly from Valparaiso to Panama, have given twelve per cent to their shareholders; and but last month paid £1 15s. on every £50 share, and a bonus of £18 14s. on every £50 share. The profits realised by the American proprietors on their lines from California to Panama are exceedingly large. It is notorious that, by that line, Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall, in the short time which has elapsed since the discovery of the golden region of California, have cleared immense fortunes; and by the same means, and in the same time, Mr. Vanderbilt has been enabled to visit Europe in a steam-yacht of greater tonnage and more superb appointments than the steam-yacht of any European Sovereign. We, therefore, see no reason to doubt the immense success of the Australian Direct Company, having golden colonies for its destination, and golden lands on either hand as its tributaries.

## COMMENCEMENT OF THE PORTSMOUTH RAILWAY.

A direct railway communication has long been felt to be a desirable addition to the links in our iron roads, that already connect the metropolis with the south coast. The original conception of this project, as well as its energetic prosecution through Parliament, has been mainly due to the landowners in the district; and the Government, feeling the vital importance of multiplying the facilities of communication with Portsmouth, gave it their countenance and support; and the bill received the Royal assent a few weeks ago. Though the railway will, in fact, be a direct line to Portsmouth, yet it is not intended to have an independent station at either of its two termini; but it will run from the South-Western branch at Godalming to Havant, on the Brighton and Portsmouth Railway. To Mr. Bonham Carter, M.P. for Winchester, who has spiritedly aided the measure, was the graceful compliment paid of having the work begun upon his lands at Buriton, near Petersfield, and that the first turf should be cut by his hands on Saturday last.

About three o'clock in the afternoon, a large party, conveyed from London by a special train to Farnham, and from thence by other conveyances to Buriton, about two miles south-west of Petersfield, met Mr. Carter, Mr. Mowatt, the Chairman of the Directors, and a number of other friends from Portsmouth and the neighbourhood, at Buriton, where preparations were made for the ceremonial. There were present on the occasion Mr. Lowe, M.P., Mr. Hindham, M.P., Mr. William Jolliffe, M.P., Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Captain Warren, of the South-Eastern Railway, Mr. Crombie, Secretary of the South-Eastern Railway, Mr. Tate, architect, &c. Buriton Manor, now converted into a farmhouse, is classic ground, having been the patrimony, and for many years the residence, of the historian Gibbon, where he spent many years in preparation and study for his great historical work. It is delightfully situated at the bottom of the northern slope of the South Down Hills, whose chalky downs are here covered with a soft deep verdure, and stately trees, which clothe the steep banks up to their very summit. Gibbon thus describes the Manor-house and the surrounding scenery:—

An old mansion in a state of decay had been converted into the fashion and convenience of a modern house, and if strangers had nothing to see, the inhabitants had nothing to desire. The spot was happily chosen, at the end of the village and the bottom of the hill, but the aspect of the adjacent grounds was various and cheerful. The downs commanded a noble prospect, and the long-hanging woods in sight of the house could not, perhaps, have been improved by art or expense. Our immediate neighbourhood was rare and rustic.

It was in the very heart of the scenery thus commemorated from the face of the bank immediately in sight of the house—that the first turf was to be cut. To this spot the company walked in procession from





THE DIRECT ROUTE TO AUSTRALIA.

the house, preceded by the Royal Marines' band from Portsmouth. The hill itself was covered with some thousands of persons, assembled from all parts of the country. When the procession came up, the various members in it had taken their places, and silence had been obtained through Mr. Harker, Mr. Mowatt, the Chairman, addressed them on the advantages of railways, and of the projected line.

Mr. Errington, the engineer, also addressed the meeting, and said that the line would require 100 bridges, and that between 2000 and 3000 workmen would be employed on the work for two years.

Mr. Errington then handed a handsome silver spade, having the arms of the Company engraved on it, with the date of the commencement of the undertaking, to Mr. Bonham Carter, who, casting off his coat in true workmanlike style, manfully wielded both spade and pickaxe, and speedily filled a handsome mahogany barrow with the turf, intermixed with bouquets of flowers, which were flung in by the ladies, and then wheeled it along some planking, and tipped it over into the bottom amid the cheers of the spectators. He then addressed the audience in his working costume; and after some graceful remarks on the pain which it gave him to be instrumental in breaking up and injuring the

scene of soft and sylvan beauty which spread around, he added that he was sure the regret would be but for a short time, while the utility and the convenience would be permanent. It would benefit the district through which it passed; it would facilitate the intercourse between the coast and the metropolis; and from the interest the Government had manifested in the undertaking, he believed it would strengthen and multiply the defences of the country. For these reasons he had himself done what he could to forward the interests of the line, and he now wished it and its Directors every success.

The ceremony of the day was now concluded, the company filed off



COMMENCEMENT OF THE PORTSMOUTH DIRECT RAILWAY, AT BURITON MANOR.



the ground, and left the spot to the operations of the workmen, who, setting to their work with a will, had, in a very short space of time, opened a deep wide cutting in the breast of the hill. While they were plying spade and mattock, the Chairman and Directors, attended by the invited guests, proceeded to a marquee which had been pitched at a short distance in the valley, where an excellent collation had been provided by Mr. Crafts, of Petersfield. Mr. Mowatt presided. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, and after drinking to the success of the undertaking which had that day so auspiciously commenced, the party broke up and returned to town by the South-Western Railway.

### PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.**—At the last monthly council held at the society's house, on Wednesday, Mr. Faulks, of Crosby, near Liverpool, and Mr. James Bell, of York-place, Edinburgh, favoured the council with interesting statements connected with the important discovery of extensive deposits of sea-birds, on islands and caves along the eastern coast of Africa. They also forwarded to the council a collection of samples, showing the varying nature of the deposits. Among these was a deposit containing 80 per cent. of phosphate of lime (without carbonate), and a crystallised substance containing 91 per cent. of nitrate of soda, "found in small lakes, upwards of a yard and a half in diameter, in caverns, and in valleys; and surrounding these small lakes, as crystallized incrustations, to an almost incalculable amount." These gentlemen remarked: "The immense amount of deposit of guano cannot be calculated; it is found in extensive caverns as deep as could be pierced with two boarding pikes, lashed together, about twelve feet. It is also found completely covering the side of the island less exposed to rains. The discoverer's words are, 'There is enough to supply Great Britain for twenty years;' and he is an old and respectable commander and part owner, whose experience in the guano trade is of long standing." The council ordered their best thanks to Messrs. Faulks and Bell for the communication.

**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S DINNER AT GLOUCESTER.**—We have received from the proprietor of the King's Head Hotel, Gloucester, a copy of a letter addressed to him by the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, expressing the satisfaction of the Council at the manner in which the contract for the Pavilion dinner was carried out.

**FARMING IN DEVONSHIRE.**—An extraordinary fact was communicated at a meeting held at Exeter last week, on the occasion of presenting Mr. Gould, steward to Lord Poltmore, with a testimonial on his retirement from the farming business. Mr. Gould stated that he had caused to be pulled down on the estate which he farmed no less than 160 acres of hedges—about seven miles—by which he gained thirteen acres of land.

**DUBLIN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.**—Monday last was by far the most successful day since the opening, there being no less than 11,416 persons present, and the receipts exceeded the average by more than 25 per cent. The majority of the persons present were mechanics and excursionists, all of whom appeared to enjoy the treat with great avidity.

**CORK ELECTION.**—A meeting of the electors was held on Friday in the Chamber of Commerce, when resolutions to support Mr. Beamish, were adopted, and nearly £400 subscribed for his return.

**NEW CHURCH AT BROCKLEY-HILL PARK, FOREST-HILL.**—The Conservative Land Society has reserved a portion of land, on the summit of the Brockley-hill Park estate, near the Crystal Palace, for the site of a new church. Subscriptions for the endowment have been already promised by many shareholders. The proposed church will be surrounded by an ornamental garden, with walks, shrubberies, &c., for the special use of the allottees, on the terrace, which commands one of the finest views in Kent.

**CHIPPENHAM CHAPEL BAZAAR.**—On Tuesday the building committee of the new Wesleyan Chapel at Chippenham, held a bazaar in the new Town-hall. The number and variety of articles exceeded anything of the kind hitherto seen in the town. There was a large influx of visitors, and the proceeds of the day were most satisfactory. The new Chapel, which is one of the greatest ornaments of the town, is now verging towards completion by the architect, Mr. Reed.

**BALLOON DESCENTS.**—In consequence of the numerous descents of balloons during the past season in the parishes of East Ham, Plaistow, Stratford, &c., the farmers and landowners have agreed to several resolutions, in which they complain of the damage done to their standing crops and hedges by the assemblage of many hundreds of spectators. To put a stop to this destruction, they have unanimously resolved to adopt legal proceedings in any future case of a descent in their neighbourhood, prosecuting the aeronauts for a trespass.

**EDINBURGH CABIN.**—The cabin of Edinburgh are imitating the example of their brethren, with reference to an adjustment of the scale of wages. They have just put forth a placard headed "Cabinmen's Movement," setting forth their state, and a remedy for their grievances. Their tone is very timid, and their proposals reasonable. They wish to have their wages raised 3s. per week—one class who are getting only 10s. asking 13s., and another class who get 12s. asking 16s.

**SHOCKING ACCIDENT.**—On Monday evening, when the *Dryad* steam-packet touched at the Rosherville-pier, it was found that a coil of the mooring-rope had got round a young woman's leg above the ankle, and before she could be extricated, her leg was broken, and the foot nearly severed from it. The sufferer was immediately taken to Dr. Ridge's surgery, Gravesend, when it was found necessary to amputate the shattered limb. The patient, although some unfavourable symptoms at first exhibited themselves, is now doing well.

**THE ATTACK BY DYERS NEAR MANCHESTER.**—At the New Bailey on Friday week, three men—two named Hill, and one Coyle—were brought up, charged with having committed a brutal attack upon Mr. Crompton, the proprietor of dye-works at Pendleton. The defendants formed part of a piquet of dyers, who are now on strike, stationed to prevent persons from entering Mr. Crompton's employ, or to drive away those who had; and on Tuesday night a number of them entered the works, beat the men, and so seriously ill-used Mr. Crompton that he has been confined to his house ever since. The men were remanded.

**THE PITMEN OF THE TYNE AND WEAR.**—On Saturday last a meeting of the pitmen was held on the Black Fell, about five miles from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The handbill announced that the time was now come for the coal-miners "to seek that proper remuneration for their labour of which they had long been deprived." Some 1500 persons obeyed the summons, most of whom were from collieries south of the Tyne. All the speakers were working pitmen, and they addressed the meeting in an intelligent manner, pointing out the necessity of a more perfect agreement among themselves if they hoped to secure better terms from their employers.

**THE CAPITAL CONVICTS.**—The sentence of death passed upon Caroline Sherwood, at the last Sussex assizes, for the murder of her child, has been commuted to transportation for life. A similar commutation has taken place in the case of Jane Chenworth, convicted at the recent assizes at Bodmin of drowning a child intrusted to her by its mother. Ann Marshall, who, with three other persons, was convicted at the last High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh of throwing a man out of a window, whereby he was killed on the spot, has also been reprieved by her Majesty; but the law has been left to take its course upon her accomplices, Hans Smith and Macfarlane, and Helen Blackwood.

**ATTEMPT AT MURDER.—NARROW ESCAPE.**—As the Rev. Mr. Turpin, Vicar of Clara, King's County, Ireland, was entering his study with a lighted candle the other night, a bullet glanced at his accustomed seat, and entered the shutters. The Vicar's predecessor was fired at twelve years ago. Mr. Turpin is of a gentle and unoffending disposition; and had but recently been appointed to Clara.

**TESTIMONIAL.**—A handsome silver centre ornament, made by Dodd, of Cornhill, has just been presented to W. H. Hawkins, Esq., by a few friends and inhabitants of Stepney, in testimony of their respect for Mr. Hawkins, as a magistrate of the county, endeared to them by his active benevolence, especially by his unceasing attention to the schools of Trinity district, to which he has been a liberal contributor, as well as to the church of that neighbourhood.

**"CHUSAN" GOLD MEDAL.**—A handsome medal, of pure Victoria gold, has been presented by the mercantile community of Melbourne to Captain Down, commander of the *Chusan* steamer, to commemorate the arrival of that vessel, the first ocean steamer from England to Australia, and the establishment by the Peninsular and Oriental Company of the Australian Overland Mail.

**THE SMOKE NUISANCE IN THE METROPOLIS.**—Lord Palmerston's bill on the smoke nuisance has been printed. From the 1st of August, 1854, furnaces in the metropolis are to consume their own smoke. Steam-vessels on the Thames between London-bridge and Richmond-bridge, from the same day, are to consume their own smoke. No person is to be liable to any penalty in respect of the use of any furnace or steam-engine where coke or other fuel not emitting smoke is only used therein. Constables may be empowered to enter and inspect furnaces and steam-engines.

**THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.**—The new charter of the Royal College of Physicians, which has already been in draft before the medical profession, is not expected to receive the sanction of the Legislature during the present session of Parliament; Lord Palmerston having, it is understood, expressed himself favourable to further deliberation on this matter.

### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

#### FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

At last the eternal question d'Orient comes to a solution, to the immense relief of all parties and all classes, though the mode of its termination is by no means according to the ideas many entertain of the dignity and position of England and France, vis-à-vis to Russia. Be that as it may it is a source of public uneasiness and public *ennui* the less; and the immense rise of the Funds proves no small consolation to many of these even who considered that the national dignity is compromised on the occasion. *Embrassons nous, et qu'il n'en soit plus question* is the order of the day—so turn we to other themes better suited to a professor of light literature and small talk.

A report, which we really cannot credit, but which is, nevertheless, strongly asserted in some quarters, states that the *sacre* is to take place this month—that all the preparations are being secretly conducted for it—that the carriages, dresses, &c., are in progress, and that even the splendours of the Fête of the 15th are to be utilised for the occasion—that the ceremony is to be performed at Notre Dame, which is to be richly decorated, though less magnificently than for the marriage—and that a Cardinal is to take the part which it was expected the Pope was to hold. Immense works are being carried on night and day at the Chapel of the Tuileries; but whether these really have any connection with the solemnity in question, or only form one of the grounds for the report, we pretend not to aver.

The preparations for the Fête are being carried on with the utmost vigour and activity, under the superintendence of M. Visconti, who, notwithstanding his ceaseless labours at the Louvre, beside the many others his position calls upon him to attend to, pursues the occupation with indefatigable energy. The *fête de jour* is to take place simultaneously at the Champs Elysées, the Champ de Mars, and the Faubourg St. Antoine and Bercy. Along the Champs Elysée are to be disposed, at certain distances, military and other bands, and temporary shops, decorated in the Moorish style. In the Champ de Mars, at three o'clock, the artistes of the Hippodrome are to give a representation of the Field of the Cloth of Gold; followed by the taking of Laghouat, executed by the troupe of the Cirque Impérial; and at five o'clock, a balloon ascension by M. Godard. In the east of the city, pantomimes, gratuitous representations, at nearly all the theatres, games, &c., will take place; and races regattas, and *joutes d'eau* will be held on the Seine and the Bassin de Bercy. The *fête de nuit* will commence by a concert in the Gardens of the Tuileries; and a magnificent illumination will be displayed in the Jardins des Tuileries, the Place de la Concorde, the Champs Elysées, &c.; and the whole will finish by splendid fireworks at the Place de la Barrière du Trône, the Bassin de Bercy, and the Esplanade of the Invalides. It is reported that there is an idea of a *bal monstre* on this occasion, in the Park of St. Cloud, to which ten thousand persons are to be invited. Louis Napoleon, it is said, is highly favourable to the proposition, which is strongly opposed by his friends, as presenting an occasion of danger.

A statement, which we have reason to consider as well founded, avers that a well-known physician, appointed Inspector-General of Prisons, and who has lately made the tour of several, has been called to St. Cloud to give a detailed and private account to the *Chef de l'Etat* in person of the conduct and expressions of the political *détenus*—MM. Barbès and Blanqui among others. Our informant states that the result of the interview will probably be the signing of from twenty to five-and-twenty pardons, or commutations of punishment.

A grand dinner is to be given by the Prince Napoleon to the artists *décorés* and *couronnés*, on the occasion of the late Exhibition of Pictures. The interest the Prince continues to display towards art and literature, daily increases the respect and popularity he has acquired among the thinking classes of society.

A letter from Turkey, from the Princess Belgiojoso, has excited much interest in society here, as detailing an account of an attempt to assassinate her, by a servant whom she had discharged, and in which she most narrowly escaped with her life.

The Trianon, which is now being furnished and arranged, is for the exclusive use of the Empress, and will remain wholly closed to the official world.

The Queen Marie Christine has engaged apartments at the Hôtel Frascati, at Havre, where she intends passing, with her children, the bathing season. The labours for the complete restoration of the Tuileries are going on without intermission, in order to be completed for the entrance of their Majesties, who propose dining thereon the day of the Fête.

A plan is proposed to convert the Château of St. Germain into a military museum, and to transport the penitentiary, which it now lodges, elsewhere. This arrangement cannot fail to be popular; such a use being certainly more adapted to the dignity and historical *souvenirs* of a Royal château, besides adding a new attraction to one of the most agreeable summer residences in the vicinity of Paris.

Alboni has, it appears, on her marriage with Comte Pepoli, announced her intention of quitting the stage. It is said that the mortification occasioned by the indifference manifested towards her in America, has much to do with this determination.

There is an interregnum, which threatens to be of some continuance, of the Italian Opera here. The resignation of the late director, M. Corti, sent in a short time since, has been accepted without hesitation. The failure of this *impresario* excites infinitely less interest and sympathy than those of Ronconi and Lumley, whose non-success was owing principally to accidental circumstances—chiefly the actual dearth of real talent; and whose skill, experience, and fair dealing were universally admitted. The Théâtre Français has added to its list of young, pretty, and sprightly actresses a new name—that of Mlle. Valerie, who made her *début* a short time since at the Odéon; and whose youth, beauty, grace, and talent bid fair to place her high in public favour. The decoration of the Grand Opéra is just completed, with unusual taste, richness, and solidity. Instead of the painted arabesques and imitation reliefs, all the ornaments are really carved, modelled, and richly gilt. The front gallery being done away with, the boxes on the grand tier are enlarged, and small *salons* added behind them, lighted with handsome lamps let into the wall; while throughout the house everything has been done to add to its comfort, elegance, and effect. Various works are in preparation for the ensuing season, both in the musical and dancing departments. Rosati is to appear in a ballet, entitled "Les Atellanes;" and it is hoped that Carlotta Grisi will give a certain number of representations. At the Porte St. Martin the English pantomime "Harlequin and Hudibras" has a tolerable success, while the Cirque Impérial draws largely with its new piece "Le Consulat et l'Empire," which is got up with an effect of reality truly marvellous.

M. Morin, a professor of philosophy, who resigned his seat rather than take the oath of fidelity to Louis Napoleon, was arrested on Saturday, and is confined in the prison of Mazas.

The Emperor is about to visit the Camp at Helfaut. The municipal authorities of Lille and other places through which he will have to pass, have already taken measures for his reception. At Lille they are on an extensive scale. His Majesty is to enter the town on horseback, is to be received by the authorities, and is to be conducted with great pomp to the Prefecture. Two triumphal arches are to be erected in the line of procession; and all the houses are to be decorated. It is not known whether the Empress will accompany his Majesty.

The Bourse opened heavily on Wednesday, the speculators for a rise not being satisfied with the explanations given by Lord Clarendon in the House of Lords on Monday. It was reported shortly afterwards that a telegraphic despatch had been received from Constantinople announcing that the Divan had accepted the note prepared at Vienna. The

Three per Cents—which opened at 79f. 70c., and had fallen to 79f. 60c.—rose to 80f. 10c. They closed at 80f. for the end of the month.

Prince Jerome Napoleon continues to keep up his relations with his old Republican friends. He habitually holds his political soirées at the house of Mlle. Rachel, where MM. Proudhon, Bixio, Ducoux, Emile de Girardin, &c., continually meet in conclave. The Emperor is much displeased, or at least affects displeasure, at the notoriety of these *réunions*. He lately forbade Prince Louis Napoleon to receive Emile de Girardin at the Palais Royal, and received for answer from his cousin, that he would rather quit the Palais Royal himself than renounce his friend.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree conferring the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour on M. Drouyn de Lhuys, "for the eminent services rendered by him in the direction of diplomatic affairs." This recompense may be regarded as a proof of the approbation his policy has met with from the Emperor. By some it is considered as an indication of the conclusion of the crisis, and that the Minister of Foreign Affairs receives a reward as a General does at the close of a successful campaign. M. Drouyn de Lhuys gives a full dress diplomatic dinner on Monday next.

#### ITALY.

"An Italian," in the *Times*, states that only 8,700 francs out of the 400,000 francs voted by the Piedmontese Government for the relief of the Lombard exiles, stricken by the Austrian sequestration, have been applied for. The other exiles say, "that so long as they have a son, or arms to work for their bread, they will no further burden their Piedmontese brethren, who have already made too heavy sacrifices for their fellow-sufferers."

The Congregation of the Index, by decree of the 25th of July, has prohibited five new works, at the head of which stands "Hippolytus and his Age; or, the Practice and Doctrine of the Church of Rome under Commodus and Alexander Severus, &c.," by Christian Charles Josias Bunsen.

#### SPAIN.

The Spanish railway question has at length been solved. M. Salamanca's party has carried the day. The Cabinet retains office, but without the obstinate Moyano, Minister of Public Works, who is dismissed. M. Collantes is appointed in his place. It was expected that the confirmation of the concession of the Northern Railway would shortly appear in the *Gazette*. The crops throughout the country have been most abundant, and the harvest has been saved with excellent weather. Queen Amelia (Louis Philippe's widow) is expected at Seville before the end of the month. A new communication is being opened between the apartments to be occupied by the ex-Queen of the French and the chapel of the Palace of Seville, to facilitate the performance of her religious duties.

#### DENMARK.

In a Council held on the 1st inst., the King of Denmark signed the act according to which Prince Christiern of Glücksburg will ascend the Danish throne, should the male descendants of Frederik III. become extinct. Prince Christiern assumes the title of Prince of Denmark.

A letter from Copenhagen of July 31 says:—"The cholera seems to have diminished here somewhat in intensity, as there are only 237 new cases, and 115 deaths. Up to the present time the thirty-fifth part of the population has been carried off by the malady. The number of children made orphans by the cholera is so great, that some of the large rooms at the hotel of the police have been turned into an asylum for them." Later accounts represent the cholera as still on the decrease, the new cases not exceeding 150 per day.

#### PROBABLE SOLUTION OF THE EASTERN QUESTION.

At length we have reason to hope that peace will be preserved. Telegraphic despatches, received almost simultaneously by the French and English Governments, have communicated the welcome intelligence that the Czar has acceded to the Austrian proposition, and consents to receive at St. Petersburg an Ambassador from the Sublime Porte, if the Austrian project is adopted by the Porte without hesitation. A comparison of dates has caused some wonder at the suddenness of the decision, and at the rapidity with which it has been communicated; but private expresses from various points confirm the news, and establish the truth of the statement of the *Times*, that, although, at the time when the last-arrived Cabinet courier from St. Petersburg left that capital, the latest Austrian propositions had not reached the hands of the Imperial Government, yet it had been officially intimated to the British Minister, that the Emperor intended to accept the terms proposed by the Conference at Vienna.

Subsequent despatches, while confirming the tenor of this intelligence, mention the omission of any engagement for the immediate evacuation of the Danubian Principalities. Inasmuch, however, as Lord Clarendon has stated in the House of Lords that the immediate restoration of the invaded territories is an indispensable condition of peace, it is enough for the present to know that Russia yields to the united representations of Europe. The reason why the note of the powers does not directly refer to the evacuation of the Principalities, is stated to be that the circular of Count Nesselrode had already given distinct assurances that they were to be held as a "material guarantee" only till satisfaction was given; and that, if the Emperor of Russia, it is argued, is satisfied with the arrangement proposed to him, there would be no necessity for a continued occupation, and any supposition to the contrary would be entirely superfluous. It is not considered probable that the Russians will receive the order to retire until the Turkish Ambassador arrives at St. Petersburg. No doubt the Czar would like to negotiate with his troops still in the Danubian Provinces, but advices from Constantinople state that the Porte will steadily refuse to resume diplomatic negotiations with the Court of St. Petersburg until the last Russian soldier shall have withdrawn behind the Pruth. Unless the evacuation of the Principalities be complete and immediate, the Sultan will not only refuse to send an Ambassador to Petersburg, but will consider himself bound to demand that the allied fleets shall enter the Dardanelles; and there is no reason to suppose that the English and French Governments will have any objection to their doing so. The parity sought to be established by Count Nesselrode between the occupation of the Principalities and the presence of the fleet in Besika Bay seems to justify the condition which it is said the Governments of England and France will make—namely, that the Russian troops shall be called upon to retire a day or two before the French and English fleets quit Besika Bay. Besika Bay is a port free and open to the fleets of any nation that can find room in it; and even the Baltic fleet itself may, if the Emperor Nicholas thinks proper, try the experiment of a peaceful anchorage in those waters. It is clear that the evacuation of the Provinces is the great consideration at this moment with the Divan, and without that it will not accept nor listen to any compromise or arrangement. The political situation of Turkey is indeed so critical that if the Porte should yield upon this point, nothing is more probable than a revolution which might cast the Sultan his throne and life. The following telegraphic dispatch, dated Constantinople, the 1st inst., has been received:—

A manifesto to the nation has just appeared. It was announced that the Divan had drawn up an ultimatum addressed to Russia. It was also said what was the Vienna project which had been accepted by the Porte. The Russian Consul at Adrianople had been recalled; other Consuls were also to be recalled. Nothing was yet known at Constantinople of the acceptance of the Czar. The state of the finances was exhausted—the rise on gold was one per cent. The Porte was very well disposed to accept a mediation. The *Friedland* had gone aground on the coast, but has been got off.

From the invaded Principalities, we learn that Prince Gortschakoff has not only prohibited the payment of the tribute to the Porte, but has also sequestered it. Prince Ghika, the Hospodar of Moldavia, communicated to the Porte his sorrow at being obliged to break off all communication, at the command of Russia; but Stirbey, the Wallachian Hospodar, did not consider it necessary to observe such a formality. A German Kalisch correspondent of the *Lloyd*, who writes that the military preparations in Central Russia are on a very extensive scale, is of opinion that no more than 100,000 Russians are in the Principalities. When the whole of General Lüders' corps (the 5th) has crossed the Pruth they will amount to 120,000, not including the Cossacks. In a letter of a later date (the 4th), the same writer asserts that not more than 80,000 men have crossed the Pruth. Although the army has with it a vast quantity of materials for the construction of bridges, no preparations have until now been made to throw one across the Danube. The cholera is committing terrible ravages at Berdyzew, Ostrau, and Dubno, in Russia. The Austrian authorities have established a quarantine of twenty days for all cattle coming from Wallachia, the murrain having again broken out there.

Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian Commander-in-Chief, has addressed a letter to Radschid Pacha, urging the necessity of strict military discipline.



pline on all sides, and the danger of the slightest collision between the Russian and Turkish forces. The Russian troops, via Skulanie, reached that town in the utmost misery and exhaustion. They thronged in overwhelming numbers to private dwellings in search of food and shelter, having been exposed during the day's march to a scorching sun, and drenched with rain, which, towards evening, poured in torrents.

A letter from Constantinople says:—

Warlike preparations continue with the utmost vigour and activity. It is really difficult to describe the warlike ardour of the fleet, the army, and of the entire Mussulman population—all firmly resolved to defend to the last the national honour. Never, at any period in modern times, has the Porte assumed so formidable an attitude. An intelligent French officer in the Government service assured me that, in case of war, the Russians will find their enemy in numbers, courage, and discipline, far different from the twenty-seven raw battalions which so long, and at times so effectually, resisted them during the last war. The army of the Danube consists at present of above a hundred thousand chosen men, and is quartered between Schumla, Rustchuk, Sistowa, and Widdin. A council of war is to be permanently held at Varna; and advices of the 20th ult. state that Omer Pacha, and several other officers of distinction, were expected there on that day. The same letter confirms the accounts of much sickness and intermittent fever ravaging the Russian forces, in consequence of the inundation of the Danube. Colonel Neale, it appears, is permanently settled at Schumla.

According to advices from Rustchuk, large quantities of military stores are conveyed in English and Austrian (Danubian Company) boats to the Turkish fortresses, on the right bank of the Danube. Omer Pacha, who appears to be an unscrupulous financier, has bought up, and laid in, at Rustchuk, large quantities of wheat and barley, with bonds "payable in better times." The steamers of the Austrian Lloyd convey the troops on credit, and provisions are procured for them on the same easy terms. The last advices from Varna state that 32,000 men have already entered that city, in which Christians and Turks work peacefully together in the formation of entrenchments. Mention is again made of the prevalence of epidemic fever and dysentery among the Russians.

A writer from the Lower Danube says that the Sulina mouth has only 4½ feet of water; and, as none of the vessels can now get out to sea, the cargoes are transported in lighters to other ships in the Black Sea. "By means of lighters alone can the communication between the mighty Danube and the Euxine now be kept up." (A view of the Sulina mouth of the Danube, and the vessels detained there, will be found in Page 109 of our present Number.)

A letter from the frontiers of Moldavia, dated the 25th July, states that the Russian troops had not then hermetically closed the line of the Danube which they had occupied, notwithstanding the first instructions given by Prince Gortschakoff. This fact was considered to be favourable to the preservation of peace.

Letters from Teflis, of the 15th July, announce that the Russian Government is preparing a new expedition against the Circassians for the end of the present month. It is to be supported by a flotilla, which is being armed in the Sea of Azoff. There has been considerable excitement observed in Circassia since the differences have arisen between Russia and the Porte.

We learn, by way of Trebizonde, that the war still continues in Circassia. The Circassians have attacked the fortress of Toprakiate, and carried the place, in spite of the determined resistance of the garrison. Owing to this defeat Prince Menschikoff has proclaimed a state of blockade on the coasts of Circassia, from Anapa to Sankorum Kale.

#### PERSIA.

Letters from Tabriz state that Mr. Thompson, the British Minister in Persia, has obtained a complete victory over Prince Douglorouki, the Russian Minister. Mr. Thompson convinced the Shah of the necessity of placing his army on an effective footing, so that, in case of a war between Russia and the Porte he might emancipate himself at length from the Czar's influence, and perhaps recover possession of the two Persian provinces of Erivan and Nascivan, by expelling the Cossacks from the important position of Astrabad, which, in the hands of Great Britain, would paralyse the action of Russia in the Caspian Sea, and would be of the greatest service to Persia herself.

#### AMERICA.

Politics are at a stand-still. The new Ministers for England, Mexico, and Spain have not yet set out on their respective missions, at which some dissatisfaction is expressed. Mr. Buchanan's instructions will enable him to arrange every difficulty with England on amicable terms. Mr. Gadsden, it is said, also has a similarly cheering prospect in Mexico. But with regard to M. Scul's alleged commission to purchase Cuba from Spain, difficulty is seen even in the way of making the proposition. Indeed, there are doubts as to his reception at Madrid, in consequence of his filibustero speeches in Congress.

The harvest of wheat has been unusually abundant, and there is, at least, an equal promise in Indian corn. Rice looks well. The late rains have wonderfully improved the cotton plants, which will probably yield a larger crop than ever.

A sudden excitement and enthusiasm at New York have been most laudably called into action in favour of two new and noble parks; for which, by the way, the Legislature of the State has passed bills. Having regard to the evils, vapours, disease, and mortality of this city, it will readily be admitted that New York is terribly in want of some spacious ground or grounds wherein the citizens, their wives, and children may inhale health and enjoy leisure and recreation. There is now a fair prospect of such desiderata. The common councils have already examined about 700 acres, about a mile and a half above the Crystal Palace; and the territory is so well wooded, that it could soon be converted into an American Bois de Boulogne. Then there is an estate about as far up, or near the East River, of about 150 acres, which there is some idea of devoting to a similar purpose. At present, besides the Battery, Park, and Washington Parade-ground, there are but a few squares affording shade and verdure, and all surrounded by bricks and mortar. A propos of the present small Park, it contains a beautiful fountain; but people complain that they visit New York month after month and year after year, and yet never see the cooling jets-d'eau of Croton water springing from it. Several citizens, however, declared that it has played, can play, and ought to be made to play. In these days of novelty and crystal palaces, there is some chance for the establishment of parks and a reform in the sleeping fountain.

Dates from Havannah state that a well-known slave-dealer had been arrested at Belize, Honduras, for shipping Indians from Yucatan to Cuba as slaves.

A large meeting had been held in Newfoundland, at which it was resolved that unfettered commercial relations with the United States were necessary for the continued success of the province.

From New Mexico the accounts state that General Friar had withdrawn his troops from the Mesilla Valley, under an order from the Mexican Minister of War. The most cordial understanding prevailed between the military officers of both Governments. The yellow fever was prevailing at New Orleans.

#### INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

The following telegraphic despatch has been received by Submarine Telegraph, from Trieste:—

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived on the 10th of August at ten a.m., with the following despatch, dated Alexandria, August 5:—

"The Calcutta mail of the 2nd of July has arrived, with the China mail of the 23rd of June, and intelligence from Burmah to the 22nd of June; Sydney, to the 31st of May; Bombay, to the 2nd of July.

"The King of Ava has become more submissive. He has issued orders that the British troops are not to be molested, and that Meadey and Tounghou are to remain in our possession. He has released all the prisoners, but will not yet sign a treaty.

"Trade in India was dull. Exchange on London, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 1½d.

"The Imperialist army in China was preparing to retake Amoy, but without much chance of success. The rebel Christian army was within four days' march from Nankin. Canton has not yet been attacked. Business was very dull, and money very scarce.

The Arab ship *Fuze Kereem*, on her passage from Aden to Bombay, with the Bombay portion of the Indian mail, which left London on the 24th of June, foundered at sea, 20 miles from Aden. The mails, consisting of 68 boxes, were lost; and 179 out of 190 Arabs and Lascars who were on board, and Mr. Nankins, in charge of the mails, perished.

The Legislative Council of New South Wales has appointed a committee of ten to prepare the new Constitution. The produce of the Victoria gold fields is increasing. There is great destitution among the newly-arrived immigrants at Melbourne. Ren's and prices were extravagantly high. The American steamer *Monumental City* was wrecked on the 15th of May, on her passage from Port Phillip to Sydney, and thirty-five persons perished. Price of gold at Sydney, 76s. per ounce.

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Aug. 14.—12th Sunday after Trinity. Printing invented, 1477.  
MONDAY, 15.—Napoleon Bonaparte born, 1769.  
TUESDAY, 16.—Andrew Marvel died, 1678.  
WEDNESDAY, 17.—Duchess of Kent born, 1780.  
THURSDAY, 18.—Beattie died, 1803.  
FRIDAY, 19.—Royal George sunk at Spithead, 1782.  
SATURDAY, 20.—Robert Bloomfield died, 1823.

#### TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 20, 1853.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 55	9 35	10 15	11 0	11 39	Tide	0 15
0 50	0 50	1 20	1 45	2 10	2 35	2 55
3 15						

#### PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 13th, 1853, commenced the PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, by the addition of a SHEET of EIGHT PAGES. The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS will henceforth consist of SEVENTY-TWO COLUMNS of LETTER-PRESS. Price SIXPENCE.

\* By the above addition of eight pages, space will be ensured for more fully recording the progress of Literature, Popular Science, and the Fine Arts, than has hitherto been accomplished within the original limits of the Journal. By this extension, also, the great events of the day will be more prominently detailed: and the Journal will, altogether, be rendered complete as an Illustrated Picture of the age we live in.

ADVERTISERS are informed that the SCALE OF PRICES IS REDUCED; and that sufficient space is reserved to secure the insertion of all Advertisements that may be sent. No Advertisements can be received after Seven o'clock on Thursday evenings.

Office, 198, Strand. August 4, 1853.

#### IN PREPARATION FOR THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS OF SATURDAY, AUGUST 20th, A SERIES OF VIEWS AND SKETCHES OF THE GREAT NAVAL REVIEW AT SPITHEAD ON THURSDAY, THE 11th INST.

#### THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1853.

CHOBHAM has had its field-days and its glories. In a time when rumours of war compelled most people to bethink themselves of the capabilities of the great English nation to defend itself against all possible aggression, and to hold its own, in defiance of the world, a military display of our skill and our resources was as profitable as it was agreeable. But, as often before remarked, the right arm of British power is not the army, but the navy. We are proud of our military achievements, and especially of those which had their climax under Wellington; but we are still prouder of our naval glories. The old Scandinavian blood predominates in the veins of the people. Englishmen are the real Sea-kings; and are more inclined to sing "Britannia rules the waves," or

Hearts of oak are our ships,  
Jolly tars are our men,

than to chant of the "British Grenadiers," of the pluck and metal of the soldier, or the splendour of his feats of arms. After the military display of Chobham, we might have expected, as a natural consequence, the grander display of Spithead. Such a spectacle as was witnessed in the British Channel on Thursday last is rarely offered to the people of this country, and is not as yet possible among any other. No man living can claim to have witnessed a scene of more magnificence in itself, or calculated to excite such emotions of complacent self-reliance, and of patriotism in its most striking and least offensive form. In the presence of the greatest sovereign in the world—of the Parliamentary representatives of the only European nation that has the happiness to enjoy liberties that Time has been impotent to impair, but powerful to strengthen—and of a countless multitude of applauding people, the British fleet went through its varied evolutions. The result—speaking of the occurrence as of a mere spectacle—proved that our fleet is fully equal to everything that could have been expected of it. All the circumstances of the review were significant, not only to the people of these islands, but to the nations of Europe. The display was, in every sense, well-timed; and, certainly, the circumstance that was not the least significant of many was, that among the most honoured and illustrious of the guests, and spectators of the review, were the members of the Imperial family of Russia. Whatever reports those distinguished personages may transmit to their own country as to the reception they have met with, and the sights they have seen in England, they will assuredly not forget to mention that England is still the greatest naval power in the world; and that there is no danger, in this generation at least, of any deficiency of means, of skill, or of heroism, not only for maintaining, but for surpassing, the maritime glories of her bygone history. The acceptance by the Russian Emperor of the terms proposed to him by the representatives of the allied Powers at Vienna, has happily deprived the review of some portion of its minatory character. Sufficient of it remains, however, to prove to all our allies—not excluding Russia—that, whatever Great Britain undertakes to do in defence of her own rights, or of the general commonwealth of Europe, she is in a position to perform. Forty years of peace—that might naturally have been expected to engross the minds of the people with trade and commerce and material interests of every kind—have not been sufficient to enervate the national character. Our military and our naval efficiency at the present moment, and our still greater efficiency in case of need, are by this time as well known to every nation on the Continent as they are to ourselves. If, in former years, our Admiralty slumbered at its post, and laid itself open to some just reproaches of neglect or

obbery, recent events have satisfactorily proved that it was slumber and inadvertence only, and not effete, that caused it to err. We now see that, in the hour of need, it is fully equal to the duties expected of it. England has made manifest that it possesses a navy which the wrong-doers of Europe are wise to dread. We trust that its services will not be called into requisition; but we rely with the greater confidence upon its continued inactivity when we know that no probable emergency will find it unprepared. It is true that at present it is scarcely more than half manned—that a large proportion of the volunteers who have responded to the national demand for fresh levies are but raw and inexperienced landmen. But this fact excites no uneasiness. Men will be found, if wanted; and the English landsman, however rude, will speedily be transformed into the able seaman, in virtue of his descent and lineage, and of his inherent predilection for the sea-service—a predilection which has not only made us invincible in war, but made us foremost in commerce and colonisation.

THE Conference of the Four Allied Powers of Vienna has proposed terms to the Emperor of Russia, which have been accepted. These terms leave the independence of Turkey intact; they secure to the Christian subjects of the Porte all privileges and immunities which either they or their patron the Czar can reasonably claim; and they enable an accommodation to be effected without wounding the vainglory of the Russians or the sensitiveness of the Turks. We may, therefore, look upon peace as certain. The terms of the arrangement are understood to be that the Sultan will despatch an Ambassador to St. Petersburg, signifying his acquiescence in these terms, and granting greater privileges than the Czar ever claimed for the Greek Christians; but granting them of his own free will, under the guarantee of all Europe, and not at the dictation of one Power, or of many. Prince Gortschakoff will immediately afterwards receive orders to withdraw, with all the forces under his command, to the Russian side of the Pruth; and the British and French fleets will—on notification of the fact that the evacuation of the Turkish territory has been completed—withdraw from Besika Bay to their former stations in the Mediterranean. Thus will be brought to a conclusion the first act of this great European drama. The Exchange of London, and the Bourse of Paris—so keenly susceptible of fear and hope—have already felt the genial influence of these announcements, and the public securities of both countries have rapidly improved.

But notwithstanding this pleasant termination of the most perverse and unlooked-for imbroglio of modern times, reflective men will ask themselves whether all danger be really over? Every step in the business has proved that the Emperor of Russia has been forced by the public opinion of Europe to retire from his untenable position. He had every reason to be certain that, in this instance, public opinion would be supported by sufficient armaments, both naval and military, to coerce and to punish him, if need were. He speculated upon disunion, and miscalculated his time. When he found out his mistake, he submitted to invincible necessity; but, if acts are the indices of feelings, and if we may judge of any man's motives by his conduct, we may be assured that the Czar has not ceased to covet the possession of Moldavia and Wallachia; and that he still looks with longing eyes upon Constantinople. It is opportunity that he lacks, and not intention; and it will be the fault of Europe alone if opportunity be again afforded him.

We must not forget one unhappy element in this dispute. The Czar has not been allowed to conquer Turkey, or to possess himself of any portion of its territories. He retires none the worse from the conflict which he provoked, but he leaves Turkey impoverished and weakened. The effort which it cost the Sultan to be prepared, or even to be half prepared, for such an enemy, must have created a serious drain upon his resources. Financial difficulties are in every nation the surest provocatives of revolution; and, if either the one or the other should occur in Turkey, it would be a triumph to Russia, and, perhaps, the first link in a new series of events, of which in Russian eyes, Russian conquest would necessarily be the last. In withdrawing his forces behind the Pruth the Czar has not deprived himself of these hopes, because, in having occupied the Danubian Provinces; and put his opponents to the expense of defending them, he will have done something towards converting his hopes into realities. Hence the danger that is now to be feared exists amongst the Turks themselves. The religion, the fanaticism, the whole mind and character of the Turks, have been stirred to their depths by the Russian aggression; and we may well reckon among the chances of the future the probability of intestine commotions in Turkey. It is not only among the Mahomedan, but among the Christian subjects of the Sultan, that rebellion may arise. It needs a firm hand and a sagacious mind to carry Turkey successfully through the difficulties that menace her. Whether the Sultan possesses such qualities in the needful degree, remains to be proved. It cannot be denied that, under very trying and perilous circumstances, he has exhibited talents of no common order; and that he has had the good fortune to possess advisers, who have shown no deficiency either of spirit or of wisdom. But if Turkey is to be saved, her salvation must come from herself. It will be in vain for Europe to prop her up if her own sons are not equal to the emergency. And if she be destined to fall from internal rottenness, the Powers of Europe will but waste their energies in endeavouring to uphold her. Her power has long been declining. Her vassals and tributaries yield her but unsteady or merely nominal allegiance; and, while her most powerful neighbours have been steadily advancing, she has been as steadily retrograding. We are fain to believe that she has yet vitality enough to maintain herself in her former place, and that a state whose independence is so essential to the proper balance of the European system, has not been weakened beyond the power of remedy. We believe, at the same time, that many perils are yet before her, and that an arduous task is reserved for her present and future rulers. But the good wishes of all Europe—her ancient foe excepted—will attend their efforts for the reconstruction of her whole polity, so that she may share to the full in all the civilisation of our time, and be as happy abroad and respected at home as the other great states and monarchies of the world.



THE GREAT NAVAL REVIEW AT SPITHEAD.

This great event, which has caused such intense excitement, took place on Thursday morning, and was witnessed by thousands of persons, who flocked from all quarters to the scene.

As early as six o'clock steamers from Southampton, Gosport, the Isle of Wight, and indeed from all parts of the coast up to the Western Headland, were seen making their way towards the Nab, presenting, as may be easily imagined, a most interesting spectacle. In Portsmouth the people were literally wedged in the streets, unable to move in any direction. The Common Hard, from early dawn, was crowded with Londoners, who expected that from that spot they would be enabled to obtain a sight of the proceedings, an expectation in which they were grievously disappointed. On Portsdown-hill, where, by the aid of a glass, the position of the fleet might be seen, there were thousands assembled, and this was perhaps the best land spot that could have been selected for observation.

Some idea of the extraordinary influx of people into the town and vicinity of Portsmouth may be formed from the fact that during the entire night many hundreds of a respectable class walked about the streets, having vainly sought accommodation. From sunrise, trains on the London and South-Western, the South Coast, the Bishopstoke and Salisbury, as well as from other lines running towards Portsmouth, poured in shoals of anxious excursionists; not one of whom, who had not made previous arrangements, had the slightest opportunity of catching a glimpse of the review.

Shortly after nine o'clock the train—the Parliamentary train it may be called—arrived, containing several of the Ministers, and a great number of members of both Houses of Parliament, &c. &c.

Amongst the other arrivals were several judges and many dignitaries of the Church. There were also present the Duke of Wurtemberg, the Grand Duchess Olga, the Duke de Nemours, the Prince de Joinville, the Count de Paris, and many other illustrious personages.

At ten o'clock a Royal salute announced the embarkation of the Queen on board the Royal yacht, from East Cowes. Another salute was fired as her Majesty approached Spithead.

The Members of the Government, on their alighting from the railway carriages, proceeded in the *Driver*, which was also placed at the disposal of other Peers. The members of the House of Commons, on their arrival, ran with eagerness towards the *Bulldog*; but that vessel not being sufficient for their accommodation, another ship, called the *Conflict*, received the remainder.

The *Victoria* and *Albert* steamed alongside the *Duke of Wellington*. Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Wellington, and other members of her suite, descended into the Royal barge, and was rowed up to this monarch of the British fleet. The Royal standard floating in the breeze. The Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and Princess Louisa, remained in the Royal yacht. A few minutes elapsed, and Sir T. J. Cochrane, K.C.B., the Vice-Admiral, and Captain Byam Martin, in full uniform, were on the steps of the ladder, and her Majesty and the other Royal visitors went on board the great *Duke of Wellington*. The Royal standard was instantly run up, and all the vessels, with the exception of the *Duke of Wellington*, fired a thundering salute. Her Majesty, having made a short tour of inspection, appeared on the galleries of the stern of this noble vessel. Never did monarch look upon a grander or more inspiring sight than that upon which the gaze of her Majesty now fell. Her Majesty surveyed the scene with intense interest, and, standing in the galleries, received the homage of thousands of her subjects as they hailed her mistress of the waves.

Her Majesty now re-entered the Royal yacht, and orders were shortly after given for the fleet to sail in column. Scarcely had the flag-ship hauled down the signals when the whole fleet sailed, or rather steamed away in its two columns. "Sailing" will, we apprehend, soon become a term of disuse in the Royal Navy, for "steam" is gradually undermining the use of sails, and causing a mighty revolution in naval as well as in other matters. A vast and giant power has been enlisted in her Majesty's navy; and the best means of controlling and using to the best advantage that tremendous power, are questions to the proper solution of which too much attention cannot be paid.

The fleet still steamed out in column till it had reached the Nab Light, the leading ships—the *Agamemnon* and the *Duke of Wellington*—still continued abreast of each other. After passing the Nab, the columns steered a compass course, and having arrived in open water, orders were given to form the line abreast. The vessels on the starboard formed in line on the *Duke of Wellington* at right angles with its column, while those of the port or lee division formed in like manner on the *Agamemnon*. In order to effect this movement, the leading ships steamed very slowly, those astern increasing their speed in the proportion of their greater distance from the leading ships. Having thus formed line, the fleet awaited the appearance of the enemy, who, with a strong glass, might be seen in the distance. A signal was given to alter course, and the starboard and port divisions lying abreast veered with their heads opposite each other, showing their broadsides to the enemy, the leading ships closing at one cable distance. Gradually the white sails of the first-rates, and the dark smoke of the steamers of the enemy approached nearer to the fleet. The opposing fleets were now within cannon shot of each other; a gun was fired by the enemy; and the signal was instantly run up in the fleet to beat to quarters. A feeling of thrilling excitement now spread through every mind, and every instant a thundering broadside was expected from some of these leviathans of the sea. The storm passed over for a while, the enemy tacked about, and retired from his formidable foe. Signals were now run out for the fleet to attack the enemy, which it did in gallant style, the whole bearing down in line from eight to ten knots an hour; while the sailing-vessels of the enemy, not finding any wind, were rapidly being gained upon by the pursuing fleet. At length the enemy made a stand, the recall was made, and the signal hoisted to form line of battle, the fleet lying-to, with broadsides to the enemy. The *Duke of Wellington* took the lead in this movement, instead of being in the centre, as in the case of the fleet being in line, and advanced to the north-east, followed in the same direction by the other ships of the starboard division. At length the shrill whistle of the boatswain resounded through the enemy's ships; every man was at his post; and over the silence which now reigned was heard the murmuring of some commanding voice on the enemy's ships. The ports of the *Queen* opened, a lurid glare flashed for a moment from her broadside, white curling smoke followed, and then the report of one of her largest guns appeared to shake the fleet to its centre. The report had not died away when the *Agamemnon* took up the awful thunder, and every vessel of the port division added the roar of its guns to the deafening cannonade which was returned by every vessel in the enemy's fleet. Friend and foe were now enveloped in one tremendous cloud of smoke. The rolling fire was kept up on both sides with grand and sublime effect, till at length the signal was hoisted by the enemy to cease firing; and as the white smoke cleared away from her tall masts, the enemy was seen striking his flag. The victory was complete, and the grand naval battle of Spithead, the first ever fought with a fleet of war steamers, was brought to a peaceable and satisfactory conclusion.

The ships having formed two columns proceeded to Spithead, when they went through several other manoeuvres, and her Majesty in the Royal yacht returned to Osborne. The fleet remaining at anchor at Spithead.

At the last review at Spithead not a single steamer was afloat, for even the *Savannah* had not then crossed the Atlantic. Now thousands of people whirled down by the screaming locomotive, rush to Portsmouth to witness the evolutions of the steam-fleet. Of the 3500 guns which the ships now in commission carry, nearly one-third of them are borne by screw and paddle; upwards of 10,000 seamen manned the steam-fleet at Spithead. The tonnage of the vessels was nearly 45,000 tons, and the aggregate of the whole was upwards of 11,000 horse power. This steam-fleet is certainly a striking feature of the age. Compared with the present, how insufficient was the last fleet which was reviewed at Spithead. Dependent upon wind and tide for its movements, it was a mere shadow compared with the power of the present fleet. It was only in 1845 that the *Rattler* was first fitted with screws, and the success of the application of steam power placed beyond dispute. The

*Rattler*, supplied with this mechanical arrangement, is now fitted not merely for the purpose of a block ship, but has been transferred into an excellent sea-going vessel; while the *Blenheim*, the *Hogue*, and the *Ajax* possess now, in their old age, powers considerably exceeding anything which they possessed in their more youthful days as sailing-vessels. Apart, however, from all scientific considerations or progressive developments of human industry and science, there cannot be a doubt that the spectacle on Thursday presented at Spithead was without a rival in the annals of history. The Queen of the greatest empire in the world inspected the most powerful steam navy which has ever yet been produced by any nation; and England may justly be proud of the display of Thursday.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 107.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at five o'clock, when the following bills were read a second time—viz., the Assessed Taxes, the Insurance of Lives, and the Sheriffs (Scotland).

The following bills were read a third time, and passed—viz., the Naval Coast Volunteers, the Liberated Africans (Sierra Leone), the Land-tax Redemption, the Consolidated Annuities, the Turnpike Acts Continuance (Ireland), and the Passenger Act Amendment.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The unusual hour of ten o'clock at night having been appointed by the Government for the House to meet, there was in attendance at that time about 25 or 30 members, who formed themselves into different little groups, and conversed yawningly together, in the absence of the Speaker, who was alone authorised to adjourn the House, in the case of a few members than forty members being present. The right honourable gentleman at length made his appearance, at about eleven o'clock, accompanied by several members, when the House proceeded with the business set down for the night.

The following bills were read a third time and passed; viz., the Friendly Societies, the Metropolitan Sewers Act Continuance, the Copyhold Commission Continuance, the Lunatics Care and Treatment, and the Evidence Amendment Bills.

The Militia Pay Bill, and the Consolidated Fund Bill, severally went through Committee.—Adjourned.

In the House of Lords on Friday (last week), the Combination of Workmen Bill was withdrawn by Lord Kinnaird, after speeches from Lord Truro and the Lord Chancellor, denying that any measure was required to explain or declare the law on the subject. The second reading of the Government of India Bill was then moved by Earl Granville, in a speech in which he explained its leading provisions. The Earl of Malmesbury, regretting the absence of the Earl of Derby from indisposition, offered no opinion upon the bill, leaving the responsibility of a long-delayed and ill-digested measure to rest on the head of the Government who brought it forward. The Earl of Aberdeen, with much warmth, said that the course taken by the noble Earl might be convenient to him and to noble Lords opposite, but was not respectful to the House. The noble Earl had no excuse for not pronouncing an opinion; but the fact was, he had not had time to call persons together to vote. The Earl of Ellenborough subjected the bill to a searching and severe criticism. A debate followed, in which Lord Montagu, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Ashburton, the Bishop of Oxford, and Lord Wharfedale took part. The bill was then read a second time, without a division.

In the House of Commons, on Friday (last week) Sir James Graham stated that an additional naval force had proceeded to the Chinese seas for the protection of British interests there. In Committee of Supply, Mr. Disraeli opposed the vote of £35,000, for an embankment and public roadway between Battersea and Vauxhall-bridges. Sir W. Molesworth said that there was no municipal body in the metropolis having the power to raise rates for these purposes, and the inhabitants could not be rated without some principle of representation. The Government were considering whether some principle of representation could not be adopted, so that local taxation and local representation might go together in the metropolis, as in other towns and cities. A vote of £30,000 was agreed to, to enable the Government to lay down a set of independent wires from London to the Continent, for the transmission of Government and diplomatic messages and information. A convention has recently been concluded between France, Belgium, and Prussia, on this subject, and Great Britain is to become a party thereto. Diplomatic messages will be forwarded by each Government in cipher, and the order of priority will be regulated. Mr. Hume objected to the item of £500 in the civil contingencies for the passage of General Rosas, late Director of the Argentine Confederation, to this country. The hon. member also protested against the protracted sittings of the House during the present session.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Hon. and Rev. F.N. Clements, to an honorary canonry in Durham Cathedral; the Rev. E.K. Elliott, to the rectory of Broadwater, near Worthing; the Rev. J. Rowlands, to the rectory of Grimstone, Norfolk; the Rev. J. Nunn, B.A., to the rectory of Thorndon, near Eye, Suffolk; the Rev. A. J. Macleane to the rectory of Charlcombe; the Rev. P. S. Newell to the rectory of East Lydford, Somerset; the Rev. S. Newall to the vicarage of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, with Brownover annexed, near Rugby; the Rev. H. Gipps to the vicarage of Horncastle, Lincolnshire; the Rev. F. Gipps to the vicarage of Corbridge; the Ven. J. Sandford to the vicarage of Grimley, with Hallow annexed, Worcester; the Rev. C. M. Robins to the incumbency of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Westerham; the Rev. G. J. Gill to the incumbency of Cexley; the Rev. W. P. Trevelyan to the incumbency of Broomfield, near Taunton; the Rev. T. Wodehouse to the incumbency of St. Edmund at Vobster.

NEW CHURCH AT OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.—The foundation stone of a church, to be dedicated to St. Thomas, was laid by the Bishop of Manchester on Thursday, at Werneth, a district of the large and populous manufacturing town of Oldham, Lancashire.

THE CAMP AT CHOBHAM.—SATURDAY.

This day the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, again attended the Camp at Chobham. The visitors were extremely numerous. There were the usual members of the aristocracy, and among them a great many female equestrians. The object of the Lieutenant-General commanding was to give the Sovereign some idea of the means by which a fortification might be stormed. For this purpose a redoubt had been thrown up by the Sappers on the top of one of the numerous elevated positions near the centre of the Common, and directly facing the position selected for the Royal party. After various manoeuvres—bringing the attack and defence to the required spot chosen for the explosion, and where an electric battery had been prepared, and wires laid down—then, from some cause, the apparatus failed; and after a delay of half an hour, the explosion was effected by the fusee process. After this *contretemps*, the operations of the day gave place to a magnificent spectacle, viz., the marching of the whole division past the Sovereign; who, for the more perfect display of this portion of the day's proceedings, re-entered the Royal carriage, and drove some distance from her marquee to a plain of level ground admirably adapted for the purpose.

MONDAY.

By way of amends for the accident of Saturday, there was an unusually brilliant sham battle at the Camp this day. Some 5000 or 6000 visitors happened, more by good luck than good guidance, to be present on this occasion, and appeared to watch with a great deal of interest and relish the manoeuvres of the troops. The whole current of the sham battle well repaid the crowds of spectators for their visit. The Duke of Cambridge had the sole command of the troops during the day.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY.

As the days of the Camp are approaching a close, its popularity seems to increase. On Monday the numbers were something considerable; on Tuesday, though nothing was done, they were greater still; while on Wednesday, there was not only a concourse of general visitors, but the Camp was further honoured by the presence of their royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Mary of Cambridge. A guard of honour, furnished from the Horse Guards, attended the cortege of the illustrious visitors during the time they remained at the Camp, and escorted them up to the hills at the northern extremity of the Common, from whence the best view was obtained of the contest between the Camp troops and their opponents. The Duke of Cambridge again took the command, and a rather smart field-day was the consequence. No evolutions of any kind took place at the Camp on Thursday, as an immense number of the officers had obtained leave of absence to witness the review of the fleet at Spithead.

It is said the Camp will finally break up on the 18th, and the troops depart on the 19th and 20th.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 11.

Month	Corrected Reading of Thermometer.	Thermometer.	Mean of Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Day.	at 9 A.M.	Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.				
Aug. 5	50.054	70.8	49.5	58.7	— 3.4	78	CALM.
" 6	50.188	72.0	49.4	58.9	— 3.1	78	N. 1
" 7	50.162	69.2	49.4	59.2	— 3.8	72	N.
" 8	50.150	75.0	51.2	61.2	— 0.7	88	N.
" 9	50.220	73.0	46.8	59.9	— 1.9	78	E.
" 10	50.285	74.2	46.5	60.6	— 1.1	74	E.
" 11	50.278	74.8	49.7	61.5	— 0.2	75	S.E.

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 30.17 inches on the 5th to 30.58 on the 10th, and decreased to 30.29 by the end of the week. The changes during the week were small. The mean reading for the week was 30.198 inches, at the height of 82 feet above the sea. The highest temperature took place on the 8th, and was 75°; the lowest on the 10th, and was 46°50'; the range, therefore in the week was 28°50'. The average daily range was 22°20'. The mean temperature of the week was 59°20', which is 2° below the average of the same week in 38 years. The weather has been fine throughout the week; no rain has fallen, and the air has been for the most part in gentle motion only.

Lewisham, August 12, 1853.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending Aug. 11, the number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts was 991, which is a decrease of 13 upon the number in the previous week. In the corresponding weeks of the last seven years (exclusive of 1849, when the cholera prevailed) the number varied from 861 to 1135; there is no reason, therefore, to be dissatisfied with the condition of the public health. Of births, 1548 were registered in London during the week: of these 769 were boys, and 779 were girls. In the eight corresponding weeks of the seven preceding years the average number was 1392. To zymotic diseases 279 deaths are attributed (their average is 397): of these, 2 are due to small-pox (its average is 16); to measles, 16 (their average is 22); to scarlatina, 33 (its average is 49); to whooping-cough, 42 (its average is 26); to diarrhoea, 110 (its average is 121); to cholera, 4; and to typhus, 42 (its average is 39). To dropsy, cancer, &c., 40 (their average is 43). To tubercular diseases, 192 (their average is 186); of these 131 are due to consumption (its average is 128). To diseases of the brain, nerves, and senses, 119 (their average is 114): of these, 22 are due to apoplexy, and 24 to paralysis. To diseases of the lungs and the other organs of respiration, 97 (their average is 73): of these 40 are due to bronchitis (its average is 20); to pneumonia, 59 (its average is 35). To old age 22 deaths are due (its average is 42). To violence, 13 (the average of such deaths is 28); to drowning, 4 (its average is 2); of sudden deaths, 4 (their average is six). In the above return 14 deaths from cholera are to be remarked. These, it is well to mention, have occurred among the labouring classes, in a dense population and crowded districts. At Islington a man, aged seventy-four years, is recorded to have died of cancer in the face. The disease is supposed to have originated as far back as fourteen years ago, from constantly blowing for twelve months a brass horn, used as a signal at the tunnel, Regent's Canal, Islington. Seven months ago the cancer was cut from the deceased's face, his teeth and part of the jaw being removed; but he never recovered. The aggregate of fatal cases during the week has been greatly swelled by the prevalence of diarrhoea, which, for the last six weeks, has been steadily on the increase. Of the 110 fatal cases registered this week, 78 were children under one year.

THE PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—The usual quarterly general meeting of the governors and subscribers to this charitable institution was held on Monday afternoon in the board-room of the dispensary, Carey-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Mr. Twining, the treasurer, in the chair. The report was adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.—A resolution has recently been adopted by this society to send a deputation of its members to the triennial meeting of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the American Church, and a grant has been at the same time voted towards the expenses of that deputation; but the persons deputed have declined to draw upon the said grant, and thus no portion of the funds of the society will be applied to the purposes of the deputation.

REDUCTION OF WINE DUTIES.—A meeting of members of Parliament, and other gentlemen anxious for the reduction of the present duties on foreign wines was held at Fendall's Hotel, Palace-yard, on Wednesday. The chair was occupied by Mr. B. Oliveira, M.P. The meeting was attended by Mr. Whalley, M.P.; Mr. C. Forster, M.P.; Mr. W. Kirk, M.P.; Mr. Thomas, Dr. Evans, &c. The chairman, after opening the business of the day, stated that he was satisfied if the duties of the wines of the south of Portugal were lowered to 1s. per gallon, and wines of the north of Portugal to 1s. 6d. per gallon, to 1s. 3d. per gallon, and the duty on port to 1s. per gallon. He then proposed a resolution, which was carried for a committee to prepare the necessary documents, and to present them to the House of Commons in the next session, on the subject—sanitary and moral, commercial and economical.

THE LONG VACATION.—On Wednesday the long vacation commenced; but not the long vacation of former years. The Common Law Procedure Act has made an alteration in law proceedings. Pleadings are still stayed from the 10th August to the 24th October; but writs are issued with special endorsements, and in the event of a non-appearance, judgment can be signed and execution issued in the vacation. There is no judgment by default in the County Courts, and no long vacation.

BATTERSEA PARK.—On Tuesday, a short act, which lately received the Royal assent, was issued to provide for the purchase and extinguishment of all rights of common and laumas and other commonable rights over the site of Battersea-park, Surrey. It is enacted that the Battersea-park Commissioners are to pay £1500 to the churchwardens of St. Mary, Battersea, to be applied to such purposes as a vestry shall direct, and thereupon all rights of common are to cease and determine.

WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE.—On Monday the new act—to transfer Westminster-bridge and the estates to the Commissioners of Public Works, and to enable the commissioners to remove the present bridge, and to build a new bridge on or near the same site—was printed. The rent-roll of the houses belonging to the bridge amount to £7406 1s. 6d. a year. General powers are given to the newly-appointed commissioners of the bridge; and they are authorised to construct a new bridge, with proper approaches, according to the plan deposited in their office, which plan may be inspected on the payment of one shilling. Until the new bridge is completed and thrown open to the public, the commissioners are to keep up a communication between the Middlesex and Surrey shores. Compensation is to be given to the officers of the old bridge, by reason of the abolition of their offices. As soon as convenient, the old bridge is to be taken down, and the materials sold.

FARE TABLES FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGES.—On Wednesday the Commissioners of Police issued orders for the proprietors of hackney carriages immediately to post tables of fares inside and outside their vehicles. Forms may be seen at Scotland-yard: they contain a statement of the fares to be charged by time and distance, the quantity of luggage taken, and the charge allowed for extra luggage and passengers. The Hansom cabs must carry them inside, on the off-side, close to the roof, near to the front glass blind, to be clear of the same up or down; and outside, on the rear side, close to the roof, to the right hand of the window panel. Clarence cabs and others must have them inside the panel of the off-door, immediately under the window, and on the outside on the back panel in the centre close to the roof. All who neglect to supply their vehicles with these tables forthwith are to be summoned, and the penalties enforced. That there may be no excuse, the Commissioners supply the tables, for 1s. on application.

STRIKE OF THE DOCK LABOURERS.—This turn-out, which, at one time threatened to be serious, is now at an end, great numbers of the old hands having left the turn-outs, and returned to their employment at their old wages, and the places of the rest having been filled up by new hands from all parts of the metropolis and country. During the week, there was a superabundance of labourers, both at the London and St. Katharine Docks. Several parties of men have sent in memorials to be allowed to return to work; but their places having been filled, the company replied they could not turn out men who had stuck by them in their difficulties to make room for them.

FIRE.—Shortly after midnight on Wednesday the greatest excitement prevailed in and near Oxford-street, in consequence of an outbreak of fire in the spacious warehouses of Messrs. Kirkman and Sons, patent-litre-makers, Duffry-place, in Golden-square, Pall-mall street, which did an immense amount of damage, not only to their manufactory, but to the neighbouring houses. For nearly five hours the conflagration continued, and could be seen from all over the metropolis. Some ten or twelve houses are supposed to be injured. On Tuesday the warehouses of Messrs. Wilson and Co., in Campside, facing Bow Church, were discovered on fire, and much damage was incurred. The fire was insured. The same morning, early, the premises of Mr. Cottrell, a cabinet-maker, in Whitmore-row, Hoxton New Town, were in danger of being burnt down. The fire was got under, but great damage was done to the workshop and house, and also to Mr. Jessup's, the next house.



EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL AND RESULT.  
SMYTH v. SMYTH.

On Monday, there commenced at Gloucester, one of the most singularly-absurd, but most extraordinary, trials ever brought before a judge and jury in this country. Mr. Bovill, Mr. Dowdeswell, and Mr. Phipson, appeared for the plaintiff; and Sir F. Thesiger, Mr. Crowder, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Taprell, Mr. Skinner, and Mr. Gray, for the defendants.

Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Mr. Keating (Q.C.), were also engaged for the plaintiff; but, for some reason, were unable to attend.

It was an action of ejectment, brought to recover possession of certain estates in that county, formerly the property of Sir Hugh Smyth, Bart., of Ashton-Hall, near Bristol. The plaintiff claimed to be the son and heir of the late Sir Hugh Smyth, who died in the year 1821. Sir Hugh Smyth was known to have been twice married, but had no issue by either marriage. The plaintiff claimed to be the son of Sir Hugh Smyth by a third and previous marriage, alleged to have taken place in Ireland, with Jane, the daughter of Count Vandenberg, in the year 1796. The plaintiff was alleged to have been born at Warminster, in the county of Wilts, and his mother having died in childbirth, he was brought up by a woman named Lydia Reed. His birth, for some reason, having been kept secret, he went abroad, and on his return to this country he was not made acquainted with his pedigree until recently, when, by the discovery of certain documents, he came to the knowledge that he was entitled to a baronetcy and estates, which were variously estimated to be worth from £20,000 to £35,000 a year. The defendant is the grandson of Sir Hugh Smyth's sister Florence, and is still a minor. On the death of Sir Hugh Smyth, in the year 1824, the property went to his brother, Sir John Smyth, and upon his death in 1849 to his sister Florence. Upon her death the present defendant became entitled.

Mr. Bovill, in opening the case to the jury, proceeded at great length to enumerate all the circumstances of this romantic case as it would be disclosed in evidence. The learned counsel said, he should establish beyond all doubt that the plaintiff was the son of Sir Hugh Smyth, by Jane, the daughter of Count Vandenberg, to whom he was married in Ireland in the year 1796. At that time there were no public registers in Ireland; but the entry of this marriage in a family Bible would be proved, and the signatures of the witnesses would be shown to be the undoubted signatures of the parties. The reason why the plaintiff's birth was kept a secret was that his mother died in childbirth, and Sir Hugh Smyth was anxious to marry Miss Wilton, the daughter of the Bishop of Bristol. The plaintiff was then brought up in the house of a carpenter at Warminster, named Provis, which had given rise to the rumour which had been spread abroad, that the plaintiff was an impostor, and was Provis's son. It would be proved, however, that he was educated at Winchester, and it was believed, at the expense of Sir Hugh Smyth. In the year 1814, a man, named Grace, who was Sir Hugh's butler, represented to Sir Hugh that his son, who had gone abroad, was dead. Sir Hugh was married again in the year 1819 to a Miss Howell, and circumstances having convinced Sir Hugh that the plaintiff was still alive, he, in the year 1822, executed a document, declaring the plaintiff to be his son. This document was discovered in the possession of a member of the family of Lydia Reed, the plaintiff's nurse. It was signed by Sir Hugh Smyth, the deceased Baronet, in a trembling hand, and by Sir John Smyth, his brother, and other persons as witnesses. All these signatures would be proved to be genuine. In the following year Sir Hugh, who would appear to have recovered in health, executed another similar document. Witnesses were called to prove the signatures to the documents. At the close of this day's evidence, the real which it was professed contained the motto of the Smyth family, "Qui Caput Capitur," was produced. The motto on the seal was "Qui Caput Capitur," an "o" being substituted for the "u." The other deed had the seal broken; and the learned counsel was afraid that a similar accident might happen to the second deed. His Lordship examined the seal, and smiled. The Court then adjourned.

On Tuesday no more proofs were sworn to of the genuineness of the hand-writings; and the entry of the marriage in the Bible was then put in and read. It was at the end, between the index and the metrical version of the Psalms. The book contained the Bible and Prayer-book. On the title-page was written the following name:—"Jno. S. Vandenberg." The Bible was printed in the year 1796. The entry had been already set out in Mr. Bovill's opening address.

The entry of baptism was also put in and read, as set out in Mr. Bovill's address. The plaintiff was called, and examined by Mr. Bovill. He was a man of middling size, and sallow complexion; with very little whisker, and iron-grey hair, carefully combed and arranged. He was dressed in black, and gave his evidence with great deliberation, very much in the style of a practised liar.

The plaintiff's life, according to his own statement, had been remarkable. He remembered (he said), being at home, when three years old, with Reed. That he was removed from her care by Grace, Sir Hugh's butler—the person accused of concealing from Sir Hugh the fact of his son being alive. After receiving instruction from various quarters, he was entered at Winchester College as a Commoner, under Dr. Goddard. His bills not being paid, he left Winchester in 1810, and proceeded to London, and called on the Marchioness of Bath, who had visited him when at school. The Marchioness refused to give him any information respecting his mother, but gave him money to the amount of £1400, or £1500, which had been left him by the mother. Shortly after this he travelled; assumed the profession of a lecturer on education; and afterwards came to England, where he became acquainted with the nature of his claim, and made a communication to the then tenant of the estate (the late Sir John Smyth). The effect of this communication (he said) was such, that Sir John died suddenly the next night.

In the course of a long and severe cross-examination, it was found that the witness had some strange notions of spelling: "vicissitudes" he spelt "vissitudes," "rapid" became "rappid," "set aside" was spelt "sett aside," &c. Sir F. Thesiger had much trouble in drawing from him many self-contradictions and unlucky explanations. Towards the close, the witness was cross-examined as to the seal affixed to the deeds of 1822 and 1823; and as to a seal which he had ordered of an engraver named Moring of Holborn. A letter was then put in, written by the plaintiff to a Rev. Mr. Bennett, of Ballinadee, Ireland, in which he said he had a certificate of his mother's marriage, at Lismore, with the signature of the Rev. Dr. Lovett to it, but that he wished to verify the signature, and asked Mr. Bennett to obtain for him some document with the signature of Dr. Lovett. He did not deny that the letter to the Rev. Mr. Bennett, which was produced in court, was his. The letter was dated the 13th of March, and was sealed with the Smyth seal; and on the plaintiff being asked how it was that it was so sealed, when he only obtained the impression from the deed on the 17th, and had to get it engraved afterwards, he turned pale, and requested permission to leave the court to recover himself.

Sir F. Thesiger, however, objected; and at that moment a telegraphic message arrived from London, stating that the police had discovered that the plaintiff had applied to an engraver, at 361, Oxford-street, in January last, to engrave the Bandon crest on the ring, which had been produced as a relic, and the words "F. Gooking" on the brooch, which he had sworn he had in his possession as another family relic for years.

It is not necessary to follow the plaintiff through a detail of circumstances, the falsehood of which became gradually apparent under the searching examination of Sir F. Thesiger; but the closing scene in court is so graphic that we give a portion.

Did you on the 19th January last apply to a person at 361, Oxford-street, to engrave the ring with the Bandon crest, and the brooch with the words "Jane Gooking"?—Yes, I did. (The ring and brooch were produced, and he admitted these were the articles.) [At this admission there was an expression of surprise, as scarcely any one expected that he would frankly admit the fact, he had fenced so continually with every preceding question. But at this stage of the case he appeared cowed and crest-fallen.]

You said yesterday that for 18 months you were in the house of Dr. Williams, in Parliament-street, during the years 1818 and 1819, suffering from illness?—I did not say Dr. Williams.

Now, were you not during those 18 months in Ilchester gaol under a conviction for horse-stealing?—No; I was not.

Were you not sentenced to death under the name of Thomas Provis, for stealing a gelding, the goods and chattels of George Sladden; and was not your sentence commuted to 18 months' imprisonment, in consideration of your youth?—It was not I; it must be some other person.

Have you got the marks of the evil on your neck, and also on your right hand? (The witness hesitated, and at last bared neck and hand, and there the marks were apparent. Those on the right hand were the marks which he said, on the previous day, were inflicted in childbirth, and which he represented in the deed as the indelible marks of identity in the Smyth family.)

His Lordship thereupon appealed to Mr. Bovill as to whether he meant to go on? Mr. Bovill: I must say that the progress of this cause has been the most painful I ever knew. At this moment I can scarcely speak, owing to the emotion I see prevail in every part of the court at this appalling exhibition. From the great importance of this case, and the extraordinary interest attached to it, we have felt that we could not consistently with our duty interpose during the cross-examination which has taken place. But, after this most appalling exhibition, and this exposure so unparalleled in a court of justice, which has come on us all by surprise, it would be impossible for us to attempt to appear further in a case of this description.

The jury then returned a verdict for the defendant. All the papers, trinkets, pictures, &c., were then impounded, in order that the plaintiff might be prosecuted for forgery and perjury; and he was committed to custody by his Lordship on the charge of perjury. Sir F. Thesiger saying that he would be also taken immediately before a magistrate on the charge of forgery.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

WOLVERHAMPTON RACES.—MONDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Calot, 1; May-day, 2.  
Produce Stakes.—Whalebone, 1; Faugh-a-Ballagh filly, 2.  
Wolverhampton Stakes.—Doubt, 1; Montague, 2.  
Match for £50.—Priam the Third, 1; Theorem, 2.  
Committee Stakes.—Antonia, 1; Yafa, 2.

TUESDAY.

Patshull Handicap.—Master Slender, 1. Gladiolo, 2.  
Chillington Stakes.—Corin, 1. The Wild Huntsman, 2.  
Cleveland Cup.—Morning Star, 1. Cleveland, 2.  
A Free Handicap of 5 sovs each.—Knight Errant, 1. Lough Bawn, 2.  
Borough Members' Plate.—Theorem, 1. Ithuriel filly, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Wrottesley Stakes.—Vaultress, 1. Laycock, 2.  
Foil Stakes.—Whalebone walked over.  
Holyoake Stakes.—The Alp, 1. Black Doctor, 2.  
Theatre Stakes.—Vaultress, 1. Mayday, 2.

THURSDAY.

Foil Stakes.—Field-Marshal, 1. Sister to Maid of Delamere, 2.  
Copeland Handicap.—Gladiolo, 1. Lady Amyott, 2.  
Borough Handicap.—Knight Errant, 1.

READING RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Easthampstead-park Stakes.—Prevention, 1. Anne Page, 2.  
Abbey Stakes.—Vixen, 1. Ethelbert, 2.  
Berkshire Stakes.—Octavia, 1. Waterfall, 2.  
Ladies' Plate.—Shipwreck, 1. Mayfly, 2.  
Borough Plate was won by Young Cecilia.

THURSDAY.

Caversham Stakes.—Ireland's Eye, 1. Maidstone, 2.  
Reading Stakes.—Calliope, 1.  
£20 Plate.—Queen's Own, 1.  
Innkeeper's Plate.—Waterfall, 1.

Nothing done at Tattersall's on Thursday evening.

YACHTING.—The Royal Victoria Club Regatta took place on Tuesday, at Cowes. The sport was very dull—there being little wind; and the "drifting in" took place at twenty-five minutes past nine. There was only one race—for £50, for schooners: six entered, but only three competed; and the race was won by Mr. Rowles' *Vestal*, beating Mr. Ardeckne's *Novice* (79) and Mr. Hoare's *Derwent* (118).

BOAT-RACE FOR £100.—This affair came off on Wednesday evening, between Robert Newell, of Horsleydown, and William Pocock, of Lambeth; and after a most gallant contest, was won by Newell, who beat his opponent by eight lengths. The distance—from Putney to Mortlake—was rowed in twenty-six minutes.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The news received from Vienna, to the effect that the Emperor of Russia has accepted the propositions of the four great powers—in other words, that the long-pending differences between Russia and the Ottoman Porte have been adjusted—has had considerable influence upon the public funds this week, and prices have, as a consequence, advanced one per cent. The actual money purchases, however, have not been so large; and some parties appear to consider that present quotations are not safe, and they refer to the immense drain of the precious metals now going on for shipment to the Continent as a proof that money will be dearer. That the trade with the Continent is still considerably against this country cannot be doubted; and a remarkable feature is observed—that large supplies of silver continue to arrive hither from France, for the purpose of buying gold. In Paris, the latter metal is 0.58, and at Hamburg 1.02 per cent dearer than in London; but silver is cheaper by about one quarter per cent. At New York the exchange is in our favour by 0.18 per cent. The whole of the gold which arrived from Australia last week was immediately taken for France and Germany; consequently, the import has not figured in the returns from the Bank of England. This week about 700,000 dollars, partly in gold, has arrived from New York, and a few parcels of gold from other quarters; but the exports have been considerably in excess of the imports. Amongst the shipments is £63,960 for the Brazils, and £4,000 in specie to Australia. There has been a very active demand for money for commercial purposes. As yet, it has been freely met; nevertheless, the minimum rate of discount in Lombard-street has been  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. The discount houses are now allowing  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent for money on "call."

The East India Company has further increased the rate of bills on Bombay, Madras, and Bengal, by  $\frac{1}{4}$  per rupee. Consols were rather active on Monday. The Three per Cent Reduced were done at 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; the Three per Cent Consols, 97  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 98; the New Three-and-a-quarter per Cents, 104  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 104  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Bank Stock was 227  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 228; India Stock, 2 dis. to 1 prem. There was not so much firmness in the market, either on Tuesday or Wednesday; hence the quotations were a shade lower, 88 being the leading figure for the Three per Cents, and 101 for the New Three-and-a-quarter per Cents. India Bonds have been heavy, at 23s. premium. Long Annuities have been done at 5 15-16. On Thursday Consols were very firm throughout the day, and the quotations were again on the advance. The three per Cents opened at 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and closed at 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ . For the Account the last price was 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ . The three per Cents Reduced marked 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and the new Three-and-a-quarter per Cents, 104  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Bank Stock, 229. Exchequer Bills were 1s. lower—viz. 3s. dis. to par.

The returns issued by the Board of Trade of the import and export trade of the United Kingdom exhibit very favourable results. The aggregate value of our shipments during the first six months of the present year was £41,856,557, against £33,549,392 in 1852; being an increase of £8,307,165, or 15 per cent. Compared with 1851, the increase is £7,772,704.

The Foreign House has been more buoyant than for some time past, and prices have tended upwards. Chilean Six per Cents have been done at 104  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Danish Three per Cents, 84  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ecuador, 5; Mexican Three per Cents, 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 83  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Portuguese Four per Cents, 43  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Russian Five per Cents, 182  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, Four-and-a-half per Cents, 100  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, Small, 104  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sardinian Five per Cents, 93  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Spanish Three per Cents, 47  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, New, Deferred, 23  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, Committee's Certificates, 61  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent; Dutch Four per Cents, 98  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, Two-and-a-half per Cents, 64  $\frac{1}{2}$  ex div.; Grenada, Deferred, 94 to 95.

Miscellaneous Shares have been in improved request, and the quotations have been on the advance. Australian Agricultural have marked 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; British American Land, 63; Crystal Palace, 6  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 7; Ditto, of France, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Netherlands Land, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Peel River Land and Mineral, 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Scottish Australian Investment, 3; South Australian Land, 3  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Katharine Dock, 104; London, 124; Victoria, 8  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Hungerford Bridge Shares have marked 12; Waterloo, 5; Vauxhall, 23  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Albion Insurance, 95; Atlas, 22  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Argus, 24  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Church of England, 33; County, 121; European Life, 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; General, 52; Globe, 150 ex div.; Guardian, 61 ex div.; Law Fire, 43 ex div.; Ditto Life, 56; Pelican, 45; Phoenix, 185; Royal Exchange, 242; Sun Life, 65; Universal Life, 45; Berlin Waterworks, 24; Kent, 84  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Southwark and Vauxhall, 88; West Middlesex, 113  $\frac{1}{2}$  ex div.; Canada Bonds, 73; Do. six per cent do., 116; Do., 114  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; City Navigation Bonds, 95; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 9; General Steam Navigation, 31; Hudson's Bay, 224; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 76  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Do. New, 29; Royal Mail Steam, 72.

The stock of Lulion in the Bank of England is now reduced to £17,739,167; and the public deposits are very little over £2,000,000. For Railway shares the market has been tolerably steady, and prices have shown a tendency to advance. The traffic returns continue good; in most instances considerably in excess of 1852. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 26; Bristol and Exeter, 102  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Caledonian, 68  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Eastern Counties, 12  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Northern, 86; Ditto, A Stock, 64; Great Western, 90  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 78  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Leeds Northern, 15  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; London and Blackwall, 8  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; London and Brighton, 103  $\frac{1}{2}$  ex div.; London and North-Western, 116; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 28  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Midland, 72  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; North Staffordshire, 134; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 63  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Scottish Midland, 63; South-Eastern, 72  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; South Wales, 26  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; West End of London and Crystal Palace, 1; Wimbledon and Croydon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  dis.; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 70  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 12  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; York and North Midland, 61.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 107  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; East Lincolnshire, 151  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Hull and Selby, 113.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian 106; Eastern Counties, No. 2, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  prem.; Great Northern Five per Cent, 129; Ditto, Five per Cent, Redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 113  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Western, Redeemable at Four-and-a-half per Cent, 103  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cent, 160  $\frac{1}{2}$  ex div.; Ditto, Four-and-a-half per Cent, 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 17  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; York, Newcastle, and Berwick Four per Cent, 104; Ditto (£5 paid), 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; York and North Midland 11 and S. Purchase, 10.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhenish, 6; East India Extension, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Central of France, 10; Luxembourg, 7  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto Railway, 43; Ditto Guaranteed, 4; Northern of France, 35  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto £20 Bonds, 14  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Paris and Lyons, 28  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Paris and Strasburg, 39; Rouen and Havre, 20; Royal Danish, 7  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sambre and Meuse, 9  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Upper India Scrip,  $\frac{1}{2}$  prem.

The business doing in Mining Shares has been but moderate. On Thursday Agfa Fria were 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2; Australian, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ave Maria,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Cobre Copper, 47  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Linaria, 10 to 12; Mexican and South American, 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Nouveau Monde, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sanlago de Cuba, 3  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; West Grenada,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; West Mani-poua,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Yuba,  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Constantly and by land carriage, the arrivals of English wheat up to our market, this week, have been considerably on the increase, and of excellent quality. Owing to the favourable change in the weather for harvest work, and the large arrivals from abroad, the demand for all kinds has ruled heavy, and a decline in the quotations from 2s. to 4s. per quarter, and clearances have not been effected. Foreign wheat, ex granary, has moved off slowly, at from 1s. to 2s. per quarter less money; but, owing to the rise in prices in Italy, floating cargoes have commanded 1s. to 2s. per quarter more money. There has been a moderate inquiry for barley and malt, on former terms. Oats, the arrivals of which have been large, have fallen in value 1s. per quarter. Beans may be called 1s. cheaper. In the prices of peas and flour no change has taken place.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 46s. to 54s.; ditto, white, 48s. to 58s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 46s. to 54s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 28s. to 30s.; grinding barley, 28s. to 31s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; malt, ditto, 30s. to 38s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 30s. to 31s.; brown ditto, 48s. to 54s.; Kingston and Ware, 60s. to 64s.; Chevalier, 65s. to 67s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 20s. to 22s.; potato ditto, 22s. to 26s.; Yeoughal and Cork, black, 19s. to 21s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; tick beans, new, —s. to —s.; ditto, old, 37s. to 41s.; grey peas, 33s. to 38s.; mangel, 30s. to 39s.; white, 40s. to 43s.; bodors, 41s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 45s. to 50s.; Suffolk, 38s. to 40s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 39s. to 42s. per 280 lb. Foreign: French, 38s. to 42s. per 280 lb.; American flour, 32s. to 28s. per barrel.

NEW HARVESTED AND OLD HANDS.—From £27 to £35 per ton. Samples of new arrivals and which are steadily in demand. Landed and sales have continued very full prices.

Linnseed, English, sowing, 54s. to 59s.; Baltic, crushing, 47s. to 50s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 48s. to 49s.; hempseed, 38s. to 42s. per quarter; coriander, 12s. to 14s. per bushel. Brown tallow, 58s. to 60s.; white ditto, 7s. to 8s.; and tallow, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d. per cwt. English rapeseed, new, £27 to £28 per last of ten quarters. Linnseed cakes, English, 28 18s. to £20 18s.; ditto, foreign, 48s. to 49s. 6d. per ton. Rape cakes, 15s. to 17s. 6d. per ton. Canary, 4s. to 4 12s. per quarter. English clover seed, red, 42s. to 42 12s.; white ditto, 44s. to 44 12s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 8 12d.; of household bread, 6d. to 7 12d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 53s. 9d.; barley, 29s. 9d.; oats, 22s. 6d.; rye, 37s. 3d.; beans, 40s. 7d.; peas, 36s. 10d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 50s. 6d.; barley, 29s. 5d.; oats, 21s. 4d.; rye, 35s. 4d.; beans, 40s. 6d.; peas, 36s. 3d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—For all kinds the demand is very inactive, and in some instances prices have a downward tendency. Common sound congou is selling at from 11s. to 11 12d. per lb. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 26,570 174 lb., against 25,742 254 ditto in 1852.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled brisk, and previous rates have been firmly supported. Fine yellow Barbadoes has sold at from 27s. 6d. to 28s.; low to good, 33s. 6d. to 37s.; brown, 33s. 6d. to 38s.; fine yellow Mauritius, 38s. 6d. to 39s.; low to good, 35s. 6d. to 38s.; good to fine brown, 32s. to 35s.; 2nd quality, 23s. to 30s. 6d.; low to fine white, 35s. 6d. to 38s.; the ditto, 28s. 6d. to 40s.; fine grainy yellow, 40s. to 41s. 6d.; ditto white, 42 to 44s. 6d. per cwt. Floating cargoes have sold readily, at very full prices. Refined goods steady; brown lump at 40s.; and low to fine grocery, 40s. 6d. to 48s. 6d. per cwt. The total clearances to the 6th inst. were 3,874,562 cwt., against 3,633,899 ditto in 1852.

Coffee.—Most of the parcels offered at public sale have been withdrawn at very full prices. Good ordinary native Java, 4s. 6d. per cwt. at 100 per cent.

Rice.—All kinds are very dull; and, to effect sales, lower rates must be submitted to.

Provisions.—The sale for all kinds of Irish butter is in a sluggish state. In some instances, prices are rather easier. Foreign is very dull, and 4s. to 4s. 10s. lower. English is offering on lower terms. Fine weekly Dorset, 88s. to 100s. per cwt. The bacon market is firm, and steady Waterford is worth 72s. per cwt., landed. In the value of other kinds of provisions, no change has taken place.

Tallow.—Owing to the favourable accounts from Russia our market is inactive, and prices have fallen £2 per ton. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 51s. 6d., and for delivery during the last three months, 51s. per cwt. Town tallow, 56s. 6d. per cwt., net cash; rough fat, 24s. 11d. per 110 lb.

Sperm oil is very dull, and £2 per ton lower. Linnseed is quoted at from 29s. 6d. to 30s. 6d. per cwt. In other oils very little is doing.

Spirits.—The market for rum is firm, at extreme quotations. Proof Lowlands is worth 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; East India, 2s.; and Havana, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 0d. per gallon. The sale for brandy is active, at improving prices. Sales of cognac, best brands of 1851, 7s. 11d. to 8s. 11d.; 1850 ditto, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.; 1849 ditto, 5s. 1d. to 6s. 3d.; older, 8s. 2d. to 8s. 4d.; and low to middling, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per gallon. Geneva and corn-spirits are active, and quite as dear as last week.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, £4 5s. to £5 10s.; new ditto, £2 10s. to £4 0s.; old clover, £4 5s. to £6 0s.; new ditto, £3 10s. to £4 5s.; and straw, £1 10s. to £1 15s. per load.

Wool.—The public sales of Colonial wool are just concluding. The biddings this week have ruled steadily, at unaltered quotations. English wools are in improved request. Good ordinary large supplies, in excellent condition, continue on sale. The demand for them is steady, at from 40s. to 100s. per ton.

Coals.—Hawthorn's Hartley, 1s.; Holywell, 1s.; Old Admir, 1s.; Redburn Main, 15s. 6d.; Tandle Moor, 16s. 6d.; Tyne Main, 16s. 6d.; Eden Main, 17s. 6d.; Milton, 18s.; Lambton, 17s. 6d.; Stewart's, 18s. per ton.

Grain.—The demand for all kinds is heavy, and prices are barely supported. Duty, £155,000. Mail and East Kent pockets, 130s. to 135s.; World of Corn, 128s. to 145s.; Sussex, 115s. to 130s. per cwt.

Smithfield.—The supplies of each kind of stock on offer this week have been seasonably good as to number, but very deficient in quality. The general demand has ruled steadily, as follows:—

Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 0d. per lb. To ask the highest price for each kind of meat, at full prices:—

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THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, AUG. 5.

WAR OFFICE, AUG. 5.

94th Foot: Major-Gen. W. Staveley, C.B., to be Colonel.

NAVAL OFFICE, JULY 29.

12th Light Dragoons: Brevet Lieut.-Col. W. H. Tottenham to be Lieut.-Col.; Capt. D. A. Monro to be Major; Major L. Fyler to be Major, vice Tottenham. To be Captains:—Rus. A. W. Williams, C. Marr, and C. P. Gilton; Capt. E. Fellowes, vice Monro. To be Lieutenants:—Cornelia R. S. Bond, vice Williams; V. Baker, vice Marr. Lieuts. T. H. Stisted, vice Clifton; W. H. Slade, R. Hodgson, C. J. Hartford, T. C. B. White, C. St. George, G. R. Rickets, F. W. Goldring, R. Munnell, J. Macquenn, S. Pearson, A. B. B. White, H. F. G. Coleman. 43rd Foot: Brevet Lieut.-Colonel H. N. Phillips to be Lieut.-Colonel; Brevet Major G. J. P. Talbot to be Major, vice Phillips. To be Captains:—Lieutenants A. E. V. Pountney, H. J. P. Booth, Captain W. J. Dorehill, vice Talbot. To be Lieutenants:—Ensigns C. R. Mure, vice Pountney; Ensign G. Calvert, vice Booth; Ensigns Hon. H. Ainsley, Lieutenants F. C. Kennedy, R. C. Glover, J. F. Frydell, C. S. Nott, S. T. Sargent, P. E. Medhurst, A. G. E. Morley, 74th: Brevet Major-General to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Brevet Major F. W. L. Hancock to be Major, vice Monkland. To be Captains:—Lieutenants J. B. Falconer, W. W. J. Bruce, Captain J. S. Menzies, vice Hancock. To be Lieutenants:—Ensigns R. Calcutt, vice Falconer; A. J. Bell, vice Bruce; J. S. O. Swatfield, Lieutenants T. H. Stoddard, J. W. McFarlane, W. J. Bell; H. V. Stonehouse, F. D. Wyatt, W. L. Ingle, H. Jameson. At GST 5.—1st Life Guards: Lieutenant Sir W. A. Fraser, Bart. to be Captain, vice E. J. Goodridge, Lord Elliot, Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant C. J. Viscount Ingestre, to be Lieutenant, vice Sir W. A. Fraser, Bart. H. W. Grosvenor to be Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant, vice Viscount Ingestre.

10th Horse Guards: Cornet W. Robert Hare has been permitted to retire from the service by the sale of his commission.



AMUSEMENTS, &c.

**ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.**—SAR DANAPALUS will be performed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. MACBETH will be repeated for the FIFTY-THIRD TIME, on WEDNESDAY WEEK, AUGUST 17th; and on Saturday, ST. CUPID, or DOBOTHY'S FORTUNE, and THE HONEY-MOON; with other Entertainments, according to the bills of the day.

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DEPOSIT, £2 PER SHARE.

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Her Majesty in Council having granted a Royal Charter of Incorporation, the Directors feel it a duty promptly to bring into effect operations the means which they believe best calculated to insure the most direct and expeditious communication with Australia, and thereby to satisfy a requirement of great and growing urgency.

The route proposed, viz.—the direct line connecting England with Australia, and crossing the Isthmus of Panama, may be considered as divided into three stages—the Atlantic passage, the transit across the Isthmus, and the Pacific passage—to Sydney and Melbourne alternately, coaling at Panama, or other convenient station. On the first it is unnecessary to dwell, of the second, all difficulties are in process of speedy removal by the line of Railway now approaching its completion, with attendant accommodation of suitable hotels, at both extremes; and the third, favoured as it is with the smoothest seas, with moderate winds, a pleasant temperature, and the absence of adverse currents, is in about fifty-five days, and of whose public utility and expediency, it has been fully confirmed by recent results; adopt this course, as combining the essential advantages of speed, of comfort, of economy, of safety; reserving, however, the power to avail themselves of any more desirable line of transit across any other section of Central America which time may possibly develop.

The speed and regularity with which paddle-wheel steamers—on the Cunard and Collins lines—have performed their passages across the turbulent seas of the North Atlantic, having established a conviction that this mode of propulsion is best calculated for long voyages at high velocity, it is proposed to employ paddle-wheel steamers of about 2000 tons, with commensurate engine power—combining all well-established improvements in reference to the machinery, uniformity of size, proportions, and cabin accommodation.

The vessels will proceed at stated periods from Milford Haven to Aspinwall (Navy Bay), on the Atlantic side of the Isthmus; from whence passengers and cargo will be conveyed by railway to Panama, on the Pacific side, and there re-embarked for Australia—accomplishing the whole distance, to or from, in about fifty-five days. The Directors, after the most deliberate consideration, have decided that Milford Haven, as the port of departure, promises advantages which few other ports can supply: viz., the safest anchorage, entrance and exit at all times, facilities of repair, supply of most suitable coals, and easy communication by rail, with London, Manchester, and the manufacturing districts.

It is thought unnecessary to dwell on the great extension of general traffic wherever proper facilities of intercourse by steam have been afforded; it may, however, be briefly stated—that the produce of gold during the year 1852, in the colony of Victoria alone, amounted to over £18,000,000, with every prospect of a continuous increase, exclusive of the produce of New South Wales, from the discovery of the San Juan de Nicaragua line. It may be, moreover, observed that this extent of traffic, however great, affords no adequate idea of the vast trade which will arise to feed this line when in full operation, with all the important advantages of a completed railway and of a systematic conduct of business.

Large additions to this vast traffic must necessarily flow from the increasing intercourse between North America and the Austral colonies, facilitated as such intercourse is by the powerful lines of steamers already established between the United States and the Isthmus of Panama in the North Atlantic, and between California and Panama in the North Pacific.

The augmented line of steamers, also, employed by the "Pacific Steam Navigation" Company between Valparaiso and Panama, must considerably swell the stream. These great results stand in perfect independence of a line, projected, which will, in all probability, at no distant period, connect California and China; and, likewise, of traffic, the national results of conveyance of passengers and valuable merchandise diverted from old and circuitous routes.

The Directors derive great encouragement from the knowledge that the objects of this Company are favoured with the high approval of British merchants in general. Many of the most eminent London houses have strongly expressed their approbation; and the following document fully attests the spirit in which the enterprise is regarded by several influential and distinguished Manchester firms:—

"We, the undersigned, being desirous of encouraging the establishment of a line of First-class Steam-packets, offering increased facilities and advantages for the transit of passengers and goods, to and from Australia and the different important States in the Pacific Ocean, and having decided to join with the advantages of the route by the Isthmus of Panama, the establishment of a line of steamers, at that place connecting the Two Oceans, hereby signify our approval of the projected British and Australian Direct Steam-packet Company, for the purpose of carrying out the line of communication to those parts in the most efficient manner."

(Signed) (Signed)  
 H. Gladstone and Co. Henry B. Jackson.  
 Horrocks, Jackson, and Co. R. Farbridge and Co.  
 Robert Smith and Co. B. Liebert.  
 Robert Gardner. Thomas Brothers, and Co.  
 Samuel Mendel. Thomas Cardwell and Co.  
 Robert Barbour and Brothers. Oswald Stevenson and Co.  
 John Pender and Co. J. A. Turner and Co.  
 George Fraser, Son, and Co.

As indicative of the approval of the Australian authorities and community—They have much satisfaction in adding the following extract of a letter received from Stuart Alexander Donaldson, Esq., Member of the Legislative Council of the Colony of New South Wales, dated "Sydney, 22nd November, 1852":—

"In my place in Council, I have ever been a warm public advocate for the advantage of Steam—and all I have ever said has gained tenfold force since the stupendous gold discovery; and, moreover, I have lately advocated this very Panama line, as the only means left of establishing the shortest possible period of communication; and the Directors, from the demonstrations and experience of the nautical members of their Board, from the assurances of the most successful ship-builders and engineers—and from arrangements formed at Panama, entertain no doubt that the passage can be accomplished in the time stated, and that the course of the post can be safely and regularly reduced to about 120 days, including the intervals between arrival and departure of the Mails.

In conclusion, the Directors observe that this Company, not burdened with unsuitable ships, nor constrained to adopt unproductive deviations, may confidently anticipate the ultimate command of Postal services. They feel assured that—after arranging moderate rates for passengers, specie, and freight, an ample margin for working charges, insurance, and repairs, and also a reserved fund for the replacement of ships and machinery—they are justified in believing that this Trunk Line promises to realise a most remunerative dividend.

Application for Shares to be made on or before the 30th of August, 1853.

\* The time of transit across the Isthmus by rail will, probably, not exceed two hours.

† The title assumed by this Company previous to the decision that the paddle-wheel should be adopted as the motive power.

\* Melbourne, April, 1853.—Hitherto the communication by steamers, via the Cape of Good Hope, instead of proving a boon to the colonies, has been a serious detriment to business. We are anxiously looking, with our Eastern neighbours, for the establishment of the Panama line.—Times, 4th July, 1853.

to the Secretary at the Company's Offices, 62, Moorgate-street; to the Brokers; or to the Agents of the National Provincial Bank of England. July, 1853.

## FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To THE AUSTRALIAN DIRECT STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, VIA PANAMA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

I request you will allot me Shares or any less number of Shares, of £25 each, in the Company, and I engage to accept the Shares so allotted to me, and to pay the Deposit of £2 per Share thereon, in such manner, and at such time, and place, as shall be appointed by the Directors of the Company for that purpose. And I further engage to execute a Deed of Subscription, to the said Company, binding myself to accept and pay for the Shares allotted to me, and also to execute the Deed, or Deeds of Settlement of the Company.

Date of this Application, day of 1853.

Letters and Notices to me may be sent by Post, addressed—  
 Name .....  
 Residence .....  
 Profession or Trade .....  
 Reference .....

## LONDON CHARTERED BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.—The Court of Directors GRANT LETTERS OF CREDIT AND BILLS OF EXCHANGE on the Branches at Sydney, Melbourne, and Geelong, at a charge of two per cent.

Approved drafts on the Australian colonies negotiated and sent for collection.

By order,  
 17, Cannon-street, City, Aug. 8, 1853. G. M. BELL, Secretary.

## BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES (established 1817).

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Arrangements are now in progress for the establishment of a branch of this Bank in London, to act as an agency for all its branches; and, when that shall have been effected, this Bank will be able to afford to its customers such facilities as are possessed by few of its sister institutions.

Sydney, Feb. 21, 1853. J. H. BAILLIE, Secretary.

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 The Bank of New South Wales is the oldest Bank in the Australian Colonies. It was established in Sydney in 1817, and has ever since carried on an extensive business in that city. Its branches at Melbourne, Geelong, and Moreton-bay, besides its various agencies in other parts of the world, afford to its customers every facility for the conduct of their business.

This Bank has hitherto carried on its London business through the agency of the London Joint-Stock Bank, but from the magnitude of its operations of late years, it was resolved by the Proprietors, at a public Meeting, in January last, to establish an agency of its own in this city; and it was determined, at the same time, to open a Share Register in London, in order to afford to the Proprietors the power of drawing their dividends, or of disposing of the stock in this country to the extent of one-eighth to the prop cap.

The London Board are prepared to grant letters of credit or bills of exchange on the parent establishment in Sydney and the various branches in New South Wales and Victoria; to cash approved drafts on Australia; to collect and remit the proceeds of bills of exchange payable there; and, under special circumstances, to make advances on the deposit of merchandise, in which manner it may be learned at their temporary offices, 37, Cannon-street.

London, 2nd August, 1853. D. LARNACH, Hon. Manager.

## ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE.

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Fire and Marine Assurances are given on liberal terms. Life Assurances to the extent of £10,000 on any life; with, or at lower rates without, participation in profits.

The reversionary bonus has amounted, on an average, to Two per Cent per Annum on the sum assured, or Forty-six per Cent on the premium paid.

Further Bonuses will be declared at the end of the year 1855, and at the end of every five years from that date.

The Bonus may be taken in reduction of premium, if preferred.

The Corporation bear the cost of Policy Stamps and Medical Fees. The Assured are subject to no charge but the Premium.

No extra Premium is required for service in the Militia.

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Persons asured with this Chartered Corporation are exempt from the liabilities of partnership involved in the Mutual system, and have the security of a large invested capital-stock, besides the fund reserved for premiums.

The Corporation affords to the Assured all the advantages of modern practice, with the stability of a safety-constituted and thoroughly tested office.

ALEX. GREEN, Secretary.

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Directors of the NEWPORT, ABERGAVENNY, and HEREFORD RAILWAY COMPANY are prepared to receive TENDERS for LOANS ON DEBENTURE BONDS for periods of Three or Five years. The Bonds will be issued in sums of £20 or upwards, and the interest thereon will be paid Half-yearly in London by Coupons on the 15th days of January and July. Proposals to be addressed to the undersigned, of whom any further information can be obtained. By order of the Board, THOMAS MITCHARD, Secretary.

Secretary's Office, 26, Spring-gardens, London, 14th July, 1853.

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tablished 1843, 29, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

This Company has been notified to be managed without extra charge, but combined with moderate and fixed charges, an unexceptionable style is guaranteed; and the public, by engaging this establishment, are ensured from the unsatisfactory system now in usage in conducting funerals.

Best Class Funeral, with Hearse and four Horses, £29 0 0  
 Two Coaches, Pair, full equipments, Lead Coffin, 22 0 0  
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 In all classes the carriages are separate.

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